

Voting of Demands for Grants.

10. XXIX—Scientific, etc., Department—

Rs. 1,62,400.

President.—To-day and to-morrow only are at our disposal, and there is a good number of demands to be moved. Some of them, namely, Medical and Forests, are very important. There are also very many cut motions upon them. I do not know whether we would have time to move them. I remember, when the Party was working, some selection was made of the various cut motions and only such selected motions were moved, and thus the work was easily got through.

Dr. A. G. Menon.—Now also we are doing that.

President.—Then I suppose we can come to the end of the budget by to-morrow, by the end of the forenoon sitting. The afternoon is to be allotted for Cranganur, and there were representations from the Cranganur Member that some time should be allotted for the discussion of the Cranganur budget.

Dr. A. G. Menon.—That is also our request.

President.—Therefore, you must finish by to-morrow's forenoon sitting.

Dr. A. G. Menon.—We shall try.

President.—The next demand is 'XXIX—Scientific, etc., Department'.

Rama Varmha Tampuran.—Sir, I rise to move for an allotment of Rs. 1,62,400 under 'XXIX—Scientific, etc., Department'. This budget comprises the Museum and Zoo gardens, Ethnography, Industrial Instruction, Potteries, Archaeology and Economic Development Committee. There are only a few variations in the budget over the revised estimate of the current year, and these have already been explained in the memorandum of the Finance Member. There is a marked increase under 'Industrial Instruction', and the Director of Public Instruction, who is in charge of these activities, will explain them in greater detail.

I wish, however, to speak a word about one provision in particular, *viz.*, that of Rs. 5,226 under "other charges" under 'C. Industrial Museum'. I do so with a great deal of diffidence, for, I am aware that, when the same demand was made last year, the House did not accept it. This amount, the House knows, represents mainly the loss sustained in the sale of Kuthampilli cloths stocked in the Museum. On that occasion the House took its stand on the ground that the purchase of the cloth at the price paid for it was very unbusinesslike. But it should be understood, Sir, that this purchase was made not so much for any pecuniary gain alone as to support the

Kuthampilli Weavers' Society. Now, the Society had not all the men of the weavers' class among them; many of them were out of the Society, and so, they began to undersell the privately made cloths in the open market.

This naturally affected the possibilities of a profitable sale by the Museum, and however much they might try, they were unable to carry out the sale without some loss. And it is this amount that is represented here.

Now, such being the circumstances, I would urge the Council to regard this transaction not as a purely financial or business concern but to view it as an earnest attempt made by the authorities to relieve and raise a deserving class of workers within our own State. If, in such an attempt, the Government trying its best to do everything possible under the circumstances detailed above, the Government failed to recoup all that it had paid for, I hope it would not be considered a serious error and that, therefore, the Council would vote this item this year.

Mr. C. A. Kunjunni Raja.—May I know from which place the yarn was obtained?

President.—After this we demanded a full explanation of the matter, and so, that report also will be read before the Council, so that conclusions may be reached in view of that report also. We have got the report from the Registrar of Co-operative Societies who was in charge of the Museum.

Rama Varmha Tampuran.—For the information of the House I may read this report submitted by M. R. Ry., Rao Sahib K. Kochugovinda Marar, Curator of the State Museum. The report runs thus:—

"With reference to the Diwan's Proceedings, dated 27th March 1929, R. O. C. No. 3401/98, I have the honour to submit the following report:

"The rules governing the purchase of articles for exhibition and sale in the Industrial Museum had been in the first instance laid down in the D. P., dated 8th May 1928, R. O. C. No. 1065/93, according to which the Museum was to contain representative specimens of the arts and industries of the State; both the Curator and Superintendent of Industries were to arrange to obtain articles for exhibition and sale, but no article was to be finally admitted to a place in the Museum unless it was passed by a committee consisting of the Diwan, the Superintendent of Industries and the Curator. These rules were workable only when the residence and headquarters of the Diwan, the Superintendent of Industries and the Curator were at Trichur. With the shifting of the headquarters of the Diwan and the Superintendent of Industries to Ennakulam, fresh rules had to be framed, and hence, in supersession of the old order, G. O., dated 3rd December 1921, Dis. No. 138/R/97, was passed, dissolving the committee and empowering the Superintendent of Industries and the Curator to make all purchases up to the budget allotment. The safeguard against possible abuses provided by joint consultation and joint responsibility was thus lost, and it would seem that, even before this order was passed, the then Superintendent of Industries, Mr. Subbuswami

Ayyar, was getting Government to compel the Curator to pay for articles, specially cloths, made by the Kuthampilli Weavers' Co-operative Society, of which he was the sponsor and guiding spirit. (Please vide correspondence ending with G. O., dated 29th June, R. O. C. No. 4031/96.) Most of the cloths thus purchased were unsuited to local needs, inferior in quality, and very highly priced. In his letter, dated 29th March 1927, C. No. 137/1097, the Registrar of Co-operative Societies in charge of the Museum brought this fact to the notice of the Government. But apparently nothing came out of his representations; neither in the quality of the yarn purchased by the Superintendent of Industries for the use of the Weavers' Society nor in that of the cloth manufactured was any improvement noticeable. The Museum thus had not the ordering of things. It was compelled to pay for whatever stock the Superintendent of Industries chose to thrust on it. Another distracting circumstance was that the majority of the weavers of Kuthampilli remained outside the Society, and they were in their usual way purchasing raw materials, making cloths, and putting them into the market. The cloths produced by the Society were far more highly priced than those produced by the weavers who were not members of the Society on account of the various commissions charged by the Society on raw materials and finished products (please vide correspondence of the Registrar of Co-operative Societies in charge, ending with D. P., dated 10th August 1922, Dis. No. 408/R/97). Thus the Society's goods could not well compete with those of the other weavers. As the Society was not responsible for the sale of its goods, it was careless about the quality of the goods made by it. Further, the weavers of Kuthampilli had divided themselves into powerful factions and those outside the Society were decrying the goods produced by the Society. All these circumstances rendered the sale of goods made by the Society well nigh impossible. The stock in the Museum remained unsold and it went on increasing by the dumping of all the output of the Society on it. The Museum, as will be clear from the reports of the officer then in charge of it, was thus not responsible for the impasse brought about by the accumulation of stock. The Government, finding the stock remaining unsold after fair trial for more than two years, at first waived the five per cent commission to induce sales. Earnest attempts were made through respectable Co-operative Societies, merchants and agents in Malabar, Cochin and Travancore, to sell the stock, but without any advantage worth the name. No more than a fourth of the stock could be sold without loss. The stock in the meanwhile began to deteriorate, and in view of the serious damage caused to it, the Government, in D. P., dated 24th April 1924, R. O. C. No. 3401 of 1098, ordered its sale at whatever prices it might fetch. In obedience to this order, offers were invited from leading merchants for the purchase of the whole stock. The offers received were disappointingly low, the highest amounting to only 30 per cent of the cost price with option to select patterns of approved quality. As the major portion of the stock consisted of unapproved patterns, this offer had to be rejected. It being deemed ruinous to retain the stock any further, steps were taken to dispose of it at the fairs and festivals in various places in Cochin, Travancore and Malabar. Bundles of cloth were taken to the fairs at Irinjakkuda, Cottupara, Vaniyamkulam, etc., and to Guruvayur during the annual *Ekdasi* festival, to Trippunittura during the *Uthsavam*, to Kavalapara during the *Vela*, to Alwaye during the *Sivarathri*, to Cranganur during *Bharani*, and were sold in retail and in auction. The D. P., ordering the disposal of the stock, was passed towards the close of 1099 and every endeavour was made to make the best of an exceedingly bad bargain. Most of the stock consisted of *paru mundus* and these could be sold only during particular seasons. The sales, therefore, naturally took time, and by the close of 1101,

VOTING OF DEMANDS FOR GRANTS

2295

the whole stock was cleared. Considering the poor quality of the stock and the high cost of production, the prices realised must be deemed satisfactory.

"The total value of cloth the Museum had to purchase was Rs. 11,744-4-1 out of which Rs. 3,299-0-1 worth of stock was sold at cost price. The remaining stock worth Rs. 8,445-4-0 had to be sold at reduced prices in the manner stated above and realised Rs. 3,239-13-9. The total loss thus amounted to Rs. 5,205-6-3 exclusive of interest. The following statement shows the extent of the purchases made:—

"Stock purchased by Mr. Anantakrishna Ayyar from the Kuthampilli weavers as per recommendations of Mr. Subbuswami Ayyar, the Superintendent of Industries Rs. 470-5-0

"Stock purchased by Mr. Gayatrinatha Ayyar from the Kuthampilli weavers as per recommendations of Mr. Subbuswami Ayyar, the Superintendent of Industries „ 2,007-14-4

"Stock purchased from the Weavers' Society by Mr. Subbuswami Ayyar , 9,266-0-9".

President.—Then there is another report by Mr. Gayatrinatha Ayyar.

Rama Varmha Tampuran.—About this Society or about the Museum? There are two reports from Mr. Gayatrinatha Ayyar, one of which is about this Kuthampilli Society.

President.—That also may be read so that the whole facts may be before the Council.

Rama Varmha Tampuran.—

"Ref. on C. No. 2025/ of 1104.

Co-operative Registrar's Office,
Trichur,
24th Edavam 1104.

Dated _____
6th June 1929.

From

M. R. Ry., R. A. GAYATRINATHA AYYAR Avl., B. A.,
Registrar of Co-operative Societies,
Cochin Government.

To

The Secretary to the Diwan,
Local and Miscellaneous Department.

Sir,

Adverting to Diwan's Proceedings, dated 27th March 1929, C. No. 3401/1098, I have the honour to state that all the connected records are in the Museum alone, and so I am unable to deal with the subject exhaustively. I am however giving below a connected history of the matter.

Mr. Subbuswami Ayyar, who was in charge of the Industries Department, wanted to effect improvements in the weaving industry of the State. With this end in view, he got together the weavers of Kuthampilli, a place celebrated for weaving, and wanted me with Government's prior orders to register a Co-operative Society for them. I was not for registering a Co-operative Society of the 'Production and Sale' type at the outset, but I had to give in since he assured me that he will be guiding the Society by expert advice on the technical side. Arrangements were made by him for raw materials personally, so also the pattern of the articles to be manufactured was dictated by him. The stock produced by the Society began to accumulate in the Society without any corresponding sales, probably on account of competition with local weavers who stood outside the Society's fold and

inferior quality and higher prices. When he found that it was difficult to find an outlet for the Society's goods, he moved the Government and got an order directing me to purchase the Society's goods. I pointed out the inadvisability of purchasing and stocking in the Museum but my representations did not prove fruitful. My predecessor and myself also purchased goods from weavers of Kuthampilli other than members of the Society solely under the advice of Mr. Subbuswami Ayyar.

The stock accumulated in the Museum under this head became very great, but the market, which is always fluctuating, was found to be lower than the prices at the Museum. I tried my level best to find out purchasers. I did not succeed to the desired extent though I was able to find some purchasers in private individuals and certain Co-operative Societies. Matters were at this stage when I severed my connection with the Museum. I am not aware of the further details, but I understand that the Honorary Superintendent, by dint of hard and untiring work, was able to clear the stock, which, by the time, had got much deteriorated, by taking them to fairs and festivals and obtain for them prices which compared very favourably to their then quality and condition. As for the figures of purchases, I am unable again to give details.

I have the honour to be,
etc. "

President.—These are the two reports.

Mr. A. B. Salem.—May I know, Sir, why this Rs. 5,500 represents a loss? You are making a demand for the vote of this House.

President.—There is an advance. The advance has to be adjusted. Please explain that.

Mr. K. Krishna Pisharodi.—There is nothing to be spent. This is an advance debited to a debt head. It has to be given a credit because advance does not form final payment. So, there is a corresponding credit to be made. It is for that book adjustment that this is needed.

President.—The amount is not now needed for any expenditure but only to satisfy the advance already made. Otherwise this will be a sort of advance unadjusted.

Mr. K. Krishna Pisharodi.—If we had made it a final payment, nobody would know it. We wanted to know whether the Society actually worked at a gain or a loss. So, we received this by paying advances and recovered it by sale. If it had been given as a final payment, there would have been no necessity, and nobody would have known whether it ended in a gain or a loss. The Government paid advances and realised the value thereafter.

Mr. C. A. Kunjunni Raja.—How long was the cloth kept in the Museum? For how many years?

Mr. K. Krishna Pisharodi.—From 1099, 4 years.

Mr. C. A. Kunjunni Raja.—The purchase was in 1096.

Mr. K. Krishna Pisharodi.—If the Comptroller had not kept any advances, this question would not have come. What the Comptroller could do was to give an advance.

Mr. A. B. Salem.—What we point out is, Rs. 5,226 is gone now. If there was a checking in time by some means, then this would not have occurred.

President.—The purchase was made by the Registrar of Co-operative Societies. He has only to see that the advances are kept.

Mr. Thomas Manjuran.—May I make a suggestion? There is a report which is just now read. There seems to be a lot of correspondence. There must be a lot to be said. Will there be any objection to defer this matter just now and bring it up to the next meeting? It is only a question of adjustment. This is a matter upon which the Council had pronounced. We shall have the benefit of the reports just now read. We cannot go into this matter on the spur of the moment. If the Government has no objection, this may be brought as a supplementary matter and that report may be placed on the Table.

President.—Is it not possible to collect further materials?

Rama Varmha Tampuran.—We can have them collected. Whatever materials we are able to collect we shall place on the Table.

President.—Whatever matters on which we can reasonably think information has to be furnished, all these things may be collected. Our own files may be examined.

Dr. A. G. Menon.—A blue-book may be issued on the subject.

President.—The Council has once voted down the demand. There must be very strong reasons to take up a different attitude. So, what they say is quite right. So it is for that purpose these and there two reports were specifically read. But it did not satisfy the Members.

Rama Varmha Tampuran.—Since the matter is under consideration, all the detailed points on which information is wanted will be noted and information got, or at the moment something else will creep up and to find out the papers it will be very difficult.

Mr. A. B. Salem.—There must be some auditor or some auditing department, some officers who are now in the Department and who were in the same place. So we could see through what channels this money has passed.

President.—The Comptroller of Accounts has nothing to do with the passing of money. Was it made under the Diwan's orders? Then the difficulty arises that it should be adjusted.

Mr. A. B. Salem.—Sometimes it is the duty of the Comptroller, if there is anything discrepant in the accounts or any-

thing to point out. It was the same case that took place in the Excise Department. Ample advances, advances, advances were going on and nobody knew. The Secretary gets one advance notice, the Comptroller gets one notice, and the Department gets one notice, and so on. So many cases are washed out in public.

President.—There was an advance of Rs. 50,000 for this purpose, Kuthampilly articles were purchased, advances were made to the Kuthampilly weavers and cloth was purchased from them. As a result of that we were able to collect 9,000 and odd rupees. So the balance of Rs. 5,000 remains. That is all a very simple story. So there is nothing complicated in these matters.

Mr. Thomas Manjuran.—Whatever is available may be placed on the Table.

President.—In the working of these things was Mr. Subbuswami Ayyar justified in purchasing the yarn himself, and if so, did he purchase at a profit to the Society? Did he pay more than the market value in the purchase of cloth? Did he purchase an inferior quality and then pay a higher price? And then, in the subsequent processes of taking it to the fairs, bringing to the villages, was any mistake committed? These are all matters with which the Finance Member has nothing to do.

Mr. Thomas Manjuran.—The information available, that is, the case as contained in the report and other papers, may be made available to the Members.

President.—We shall place before you all that we can place. It will come only to this that it will be kept as an unadjusted advance.

Mr. Thomas Manjuran.—Only three or four months.

President.—You simply say 'not adjusted'. What are you going to do?

So then this may be passed over.

Rama Varmha Tampuran.—Is it not better to decide all the points on which information is wanted?

President.—I have noted Mr. Salem's points. If you can add to these, all right. Whether there was a loss in the purchase of the yarn, whether the yarn was purchased by the Government or by the Society? On that point I say the yarn was purchased by Mr. Subbuswami Ayyar for the Society. That answer I can give. Whether any advance was made to the Society for purchasing the yarn? Yes. Advance was made. What is the price paid to the Society for the cloth? That also we can ascertain. What is the amount of the price paid to the Society for the cloth purchased? That also can be known. Whether there was a loss in the purchase of the yarn?

Mr. C. Barton Wright.—What are the Diwan's orders on the matter, and who are responsible?

President.—Supposing the Diwan said "purchase" and issued orders to Mr. Subbuswami Ayyar, Superintendent of Industries, "purchase the cloth at the price recommended by you."

Mr. C. Barton Wright.—Would he not have been ordered to buy at the market price? He could not buy just as he liked.

President.—Mr. Subbuswami Ayyar said that these articles—he gave a description of the market prices—might be purchased at such and such a rate. The Diwan, on the strength of the report submitted by Mr. Subbuswami Ayyar, ordered "may be so purchased".

Dr. A. G. Menon.—Were these placed before the Standing Finance Committee?

Rama Varmha Tampuran.—It is in the budget.

Dr. A. G. Menon.—A Standing Finance Committee meeting may be called.

President.—The whole budget was before the Standing Finance Committee.

Mr. A. B. Salem.—We had not the advantage. It was not discussed at all.

President.—I think I said something about this.

Mr. Thomas Manjuran.—But not scrutinised.

President.—Then any other point?

Mr. A. L. Antony.—Whether the purchase was made according to the orders of the Diwan, whether the order was for the models or for the articles themselves?

Mr. M. K. Raman.—Whether the loss was caused by anybody by the delay in selling, on account of the negligence of the authorities, &c.?

President.—The thing is, we should have sold promptly. And if, on account of the delay in sale, any loss was caused, by whom?

Dr. A. G. Menon.—All these may be put in the form of a memorandum and placed before the House. All the points which are necessary and which we are ignorant of, you will be able to give us.

President.—We shall collect all possible information and include in the memorandum.

Mr. T. K. Nayar.—Sir, on a point of information. Are there any more dues due to the Government from the Society?

President.—Of course, it is now in liquidation.

Mr. T. K. Nayar.—I heard that orders have been passed to collect the dues of the Society at 37½ per cent.

President.—I do not know the details. They are in a very miserable condition. That I know.

Mr. T. K. Nayar.—This point is also connected with Kuthampilli Society.

President.—Now it is being put off, and we do not take it for the consideration of the House.

Dr. A. G. Menon.—Government will then have to withdraw the grant.

President.—Government will place a memorandum giving explanation on all points on a future occasion. The provision is withdrawn by the Government.

Government withdrew the demand for Rs. 5,226 for 'other charges'.

Motions Nos. 46—47.

Mr. C. A. Kunjunni Raja.—*To omit the allotment of Rs. 5,226 for other charges.*

Mr. A. B. Salem.—*To reduce the allotment of Rs. 5,755 for C. Industrial Museum by Rs. 5,226.*

These motions were considered withdrawn as the allotment was withdrawn by the Government.

Motion No. 48.

Mr. C. A. Kunjunni Raja.—*To reduce the allotment of Rs. 15,000 for other charges, Stone-ware Factory by Rs. 10,000.*

President.—The next motion is No. 48.

Mr. C. A. Kunjunni Raja.—Sir, I may not move this motion. I want to know why you want an increase under 'Stoneware' and also an increase in the lump provision for 'Economic Development.'

Mr. V. K. Aravindaksha Menon.—The allotment under 'Stoneware Factory' is Rs. 15,000. It is proposed to work the Factory on an increased scale.

Mr. C. A. Kunjunni Raja.—Can you not wait till the opinion of the expert is ascertained?

Mr. V. K. Aravindaksha Menon.—Well, in any case, our programme for the next year is to manufacture Minton tiles and bricks which we can do without the help of the expert.

Mr. C. A. Kunjunni Raja.—And the other under 'Economic Development'?

Rao Sahib Mr. C. Matthai.—There is a provision of two thousand rupees.

Mr. C. A. Kunjunni Raja.—It was only Rs. 1,500.

Rao Sahib Mr. C. Matthai.—It is for bonus and Rs. 500 for the economic survey. That is for all these various items

Mr. C. A. Kunjunni Raja.—What are they?

Mr. Thomas Manjuran.—I suppose it was finally disposed of a year or two ago. It is six or seven years. Why was it so kept? Everybody knows that cloth will deteriorate easily.

President.—We thought that people would come forward. Not that no attempt was made to sell. The prices in the market were considerably lower than the prices we fixed.

Mr. Thomas Manjuran.—Everybody knows it would fetch nothing if it is kept indefinitely long.

President.—Efforts were made and at last it was found it was deteriorating badly. Then the Government passed final orders. We cannot keep this like bell-metal. Bell-metal articles are even now kept. This cannot be kept like that.

Mr. K. P. Kannan Nayar.—This cloth can be auctioned. What is the objection? Why should you wait for offers?

Rama Varmha Tampuran.—Because if, at first, it was auctioned, it was sure there would be a dead loss. The Government wanted to avoid that as far as possible. No offers could be anticipated. It was taken to the several fairs and we tried to dispose of as fairly as possible.

Mr. Thomas Manjuran.—Can the Government say that there was no remissness on the part of any officer?

President.—We grow wiser by an event.

Mr. Thomas Manjuran.—Can the Government say that no particular officer or officers has been or have been remiss in their duty in this connection? It is that question that matters.

President.—The purchase was made under the orders of the Diwan, and which officer is to be considered responsible?

Mr. Thomas Manjuran.—You know better, Sir, why I am asking the Government.

President.—I want to know how responsibility can be fixed. If we are to reconsider the matter, we ought not to have gone into the matter at all.

Mr. Thomas Manjuran.—Having gone in

Mr. A. B. Salem.—I want to know whether the loss has been occasioned by the purchase of yarn or by the advance made to the Kuthampilly or by the purchase of cloth manufactured or because of the negligence that has taken place. You have grown wiser now. These are the four points on which I want information.

Mr. C. A. Kunjunni Raja.—These were got down from Madras.

Mr. A. B. Salem.—These are the matters for investigation. Whether higher prices were paid for the yarn or an advance was given to the Society which was not recovered, what is the price paid to the Kuthampilli Society for the cloth that they turned out or whether the loss occurred by any action being

taken to get the sales effected. These are the four points. Otherwise we are in the dark.

President.—What are the points you want? Let us see.

Mr. A. B. Salem.—Whether the loss was occasioned by the purchase of yarn.

President.—That is whether we paid more than the market value.

Rama Varmha Tampuran.—The Society paid it.

Mr. A. B. Salem.—The yarn was supplied by Mr. Subbuswami Ayyar.

Rama Varmha Tampuran.—There is the Society, and the Superintendent of Industries was advising the Society on several points.

Mr. A. B. Salem.—Whether the yarn was purchased and supplied to the Society? Who purchased the yarn, whether the Government or the Society?

President.—What is the next point?

Mr. A. B. Salem.—Whether the yarn was purchased by the Society or by the Government?

President.—Of course, on that point, the purchase was made by Mr. Subbuswami Ayyar for the Society.

Mr. Thomas Manjuran.—That seems to have been the beginning of all trouble.

Mr. A. B. Salem.—Whether any advance was made to the Society to make the yarn into cloth?

President.—That advance was often made.

Mr. A. B. Salem.—Whether any loss was recovered, and the price paid for the cloth to the Society?

President.—Not exactly advances paid. We paid advances and got the cloth and we thought of adjusting it afterwards.

Mr. A. B. Salem.—We have to give the value of the cloth to the Society. The Society turned the yarn into cloth and we must give them the value of the cloth minus the advance or the price of the yarn.

President.—The price paid for the yarn. It is very difficult to collect that information.

Mr. Thomas Manjuran.—You could have placed the report just now read on the Table. This is a matter which the House has once discussed.

President.—We got the report specially in view of the fact that the item was voted down last year. I thought that the matter was not fully placed before the Council. These were the two officers who were able to furnish reports on the matter.

You know that Mr. Subbuswami Ayyar was alive last year. He is now no more.

Whether there was a loss in the purchase of yarn? I mean, so far as that matter is concerned, unless we know the ruling prices of the yarn in the market and the value paid by Mr. Subbuswami Ayyar also, we will not be in a position to say whether it resulted in a loss or not. That is the point. For that purpose you want information as to the market value of the yarn at the time of the purchase and the amount paid by Mr. Subbuswami Ayyar. Is that possible?

Mr. K. Krishna Pisharodi.—How does it affect, Sir? It was not a purchase made by the Government. It was a purchase made by Mr. Subbuswami Ayyar.

Mr. Thomas Manjuran.—Mr. Subbuswami Ayyar supplied the yarn.

President.—If we cannot realise any amount from Mr. Subbuswami Ayyar, we need not go back into that question. The only question is whether any of the officers now in service are responsible. The report shows that these officers were forced to purchase these articles. Gayatrinatha Ayyar reports that he raised objections but Mr. Subbuswami Ayyar's opinion prevailed. He cannot be said to be in fault.

Mr. Thomas Manjuran.—Can the Government say whether any of the officers now in service are negligent?

Mr. T. M. Krishna Menon.—The only fault is that there has been some delay in disposing.

Mr. A. B. Salem.—What I say is, when these yarns were purchased, we had our Department to control the finances of the State. That is the point. Why has the Comptroller of the Finances, in meeting this bill or in seeing the abstract bill, why has he not raised this question? Whether proper vouchers have been obtained must have been looked into.

Mr. K. Krishna Pisharodi.—It was done under the orders of the Diwan.

Mr. A. B. Salem.—What we are alleging is, if it was done by Mr. Subbuswami Ayyar, who is gone, nobody would have cared a two-pence to come to this House and bother one minute. Our officers who were existing are existing. The Comptroller's office must have control of the finance of the State. Otherwise they have no existence. What I am saying is that, when money is allotted for this purpose and spent, the account must naturally come in the course of the year to the Comptroller's office. It must have been audited. There it should have been found out whether the voucher was correct.

Mr. Thomas Manjuran.—Is there any mistake anywhere?

Mr. K. Krishna Pisharodi.—What can the Comptroller do? The Diwan issues orders to purchase. The Registrar of Co-operative Societies purchased, and as soon as that was done, a bill must have been sent. The Comptroller has simply to pass that bill. The Comptroller is not the controller of the finances as you seem to think.

Mr. C. A. Kunjunni Raja.—The order was to purchase samples of these cloths and not the yarn itself.

Mr. T. M. Krishna Menon.—Big samples, bundles of samples.

Mr. K. Krishna Pisharodi.—But the Diwan ordered like that.

Mr. C. A. Kunjunni Raja.—Was there any specific order to purchase?

Rama Varmha Tampuran.—We referred to the D. P.

Mr. Thomas Manjuran.—Who was responsible for fixing the price?

Mr. V. K. Kochunni Menon.—Mr. Subbuswami Ayyar was the Superintendent of Industries. He recommended some price and the Diwan asked the Co-operative Societies Registrar to purchase at the price fixed by Mr. Subbuswami Ayyar.

Rama Varmha Tampuran.—The prices are fixed by the Society.

Mr. A. B. Salem.—May we know the order of the Diwan, whether it has asked for the purchase of the yarn or the sample?

Mr. T. M. Krishna Menon.—Please look at things as they happened then.

President.—All the materials have been placed before the House, the facts are placed, and conclusions have to be arrived at.

Mr. Thomas Manjuran.—It would have been a great advantage if we had got enough materials to consider the matter.

President.—I thought that the matter was not fully placed before the House and that hence, when the demand came, it was voted down. Now the demand is placed again, we have collected certain facts, and they are placed before you; if you think there is still no satisfactory explanation furnished for the expenditure, the Government will simply say "advance un-adjusted". It will go on from year to year without any expenditure actually.

Mr. A. B. Salem.—We know it is only a book adjustment.

President.—The Comptroller will say "amount not credited", "adjustment not made". That will be his remark.

Rao Sahib Mr. C. Matthai.—Bonus Rs. 1,000, economic survey of the two Colleges Rs. 500 and then experiments in poultry farming and other small industries another Rs. 500.

Mr. Thomas Manjuran.—That is all right. That will do.

The motion was considered withdrawn.

Motions Nos. 49—54.

Mr. C. J. Mathew.—*To reduce the allotment of Rs. 15,000 for other charges, Stoneware Factory by Re. 1.*

Mr. A. B. Salem.—*To reduce the allotment of Rs. 15,000 for other charges, Stoneware Factory by Re. 1.*

Mr. A. B. Salem.—*To reduce the allotment of Rs. 1,664 for Archaeology by Re. 1.*

Mr. C. A. Kunjunni Raja.—*To reduce the allotment of Rs. 2,000 for Lump Provision for Experiments by Rs. 500.*

Mr. A. B. Salem.—*To omit the allotment of Rs. 1,62,400 for Scientific, etc., Department.*

Mr. C. J. Mathew.—*To reduce the total allotment of Rs. 1,62,400 under Demand No. XXIX by Rs. 10.*

Dr. A. G. Menon.—The demand minus Rs. 5,226 may be put to vote.

President.—The remaining motions, Nos. 49, 50, 51, 52, 53 and 54, are all withdrawn?

Dr. A. G. Menon.—All withdrawn.

As these motions were not moved, they were considered withdrawn.

Question proposed: *That the allotment of Rs. 1,62,400 for Demand No. XXIX—Scientific, etc., Department minus Rs. 5,226 be voted by the House.*

Question put and agreed to.

11. Demand No. XXXII—Miscellaneous—Rs. 2,62,583.

President.—The next demand is No. XXXII—Miscellaneous.

Rama Varmha Tampuran.—Sir, I rise to move for a total grant of Rs. 2,62,583 under "XXXII—Miscellaneous". The enhanced allotment budgetted for next year includes a lump provision of 2½ lakhs towards the cost of the reorganisation of the Departments on the basis of the report of the Special Finance Committee on which orders would be passed early next year. The other provisions call for no remarks as they follow the usual lines. I request that the demand may be passed.

Motion No. 1.

Mr. A. L. Antony.—*To omit the allotment of Rs. 2,50,000 for Lump Provision for reorganisation of Departments after consideration of the report of the Special Finance Committee.*

President.—Motion No. 1, Mr. A. L. Antony.

Mr. A. L. Antony.—Sir, last year the same two lakhs of rupees was also budgetted for the same matter.

President.—Was it two lakhs or one lakh?

Dr. A. G. Menon.—The provision was for two lakhs of which one lakh was allowed by this House.

Mr. A. L. Antony.—One lakh of rupees only was unanimously passed by this House on the ground that we are legitimately entitled to know how that amount is to be utilised, how it is to be spent and also that, unless we are made to know of the way in which it is to be used, we are not prepared to sanction that amount. These reasonings were well established in the last Council last year, and having known these matters also, Government persisted in the same policy of asking us again in the same manner putting us in complete darkness about the way in which it is to be disposed. It is against this policy that I myself tabled this motion to omit this amount. We are not for a moment to stand in the way of getting some enhancement for the public servants in their pay and for the development in several other Departments. We are more eager and anxious than the Government. I had also sent in an adjournment motion on the subject. But it was disallowed on the ground that it was not so very important. Really the Special Officer was sitting for more than two years.

President.—There is some misapprehension. I ruled that it was not a matter of urgent public importance. It was not an urgent matter.

Mr. A. L. Antony.—Nevertheless, I want to bring to the notice of the Government that we are more anxious to see the Government Order on the Special Finance Committee's report. At least even the Government, in spite of the promises and in spite of the great necessity, as pointed out by the Finance Member,—many a hungry mouth waiting for the manna—are giving false hopes. We were eager to know the result every day. So, at any rate, when it is a question that it will be granted within three or four months and so on, we were given hopes after hopes, and in spite of the sitting of the Special Officer for more than two years and also the consideration of the report in this House—say more than an year ago—and even in spite of the laborious task, Government now say that to reply to all the questions is not an easy task. It is a very laborious task—they say that they have to consider all the assets and disbursements and so on—to make such a re-organisation. Sir, we know the difficulties of the Government also. But, is not this time sufficient to come to us and honestly say how you are going to spend the money? It is not that we

would not allow the amount. Unless we are made known of the facts, how it is to be spent, and without appreciating it, still to bring it in the House is one additional reason for us to say that this amount should be omitted. Of course, when it was brought into this House, we can very well understand the *bona fide* that the House would be granting it. Now, when once it has been pointed out to the Government that we won't allow it unless we are made known how the money is to be spent, it is not proper to bring such a demand. I, therefore, bring this to the notice of the House and request you not to allow this amount on the ground that details are not given, and the manner in which this is to be spent has not been specified, and also that the delay will not affect the public servants, if the orders are given retrospective effect specifying even all the details of expenditure. It can be given effect to without prejudice to the public servants (*hear, hear*).

Mr. Thomas Manjuran.—Government propose to give effect from the year 1105, and my suggestion is that the enhancement may be given effect to from the year 1104 itself as we expected it in the last year.

Mr. K. P. Kannan Nayar.—Exactly so.

Mr. A. L. Antony.—These public servants, though we take some time to provide the amount in the budget, will not be affected in any way when it is given with retrospective effect (*hear, hear*). If the Government is for giving effect from the year 1105, I submit that effect may be given from the year 1104 itself.

Mr. C. J. Mathew.—Quite so.

Mr. A. L. Antony.—We are hearing complaints that we are standing in the way of enhancing their pay. Government servants say that the Government have already done everything and that we are putting obstacles in the way.

President.—Is there any complaint?

Mr. A. L. Antony.—Yes, Sir.

President.—I have heard the complaint that the Government are delaying the matter unnecessarily.

Mr. Thomas Manjuran.—They blame us also, Sir.

Mr. A. L. Antony.—I may suggest one *via media*. I may suggest this method for saving our time. You may take a few rupees now for your immediate necessity, say Rs. 5,000. We also took part in some of the discussions and deliberations on the reorganisation of the Departments and the report of the Special Finance Committee. So after knowing what the results of these deliberations are, this also may be included in a supplementary grant, so that the Government may withdraw this lump provision of 2½ lakhs of rupees.

President.—But some amount will be necessary.

Mr. P. Krishna Menon.—This has already been provided in the budget.

Rama Varmha Tampuran.—There are some who come between the pay of Rs. 10—Rs. 20 and they are paid an allowance.

President.—In certain cases an allowance is given to persons drawing a salary of above Rs. 10 and below Rs. 20.

Rama Varmha Tampuran.—Only in the case of persons whose pay was raised to Rs. 10 the amount is provided in the budget.

Dr. A. G. Menon.—I think the Hon'ble the Finance Member will enlighten us on the subject.

Mr. K. Krishna Pisharodi.—The allowance to be paid for persons drawing a salary of above Rs. 10 and below Rs. 20 has not been provided in the budget.

President.—How much does that come to? We shall give due consideration to this Finance Committee's report and take action on our deliberations as early as possible. Last year a sum of Rs. 30,000 was sanctioned and this year also the same amount may be necessary.

Mr. K. Krishna Pisharodi.—This provision has not been included in the general budget.

President.—Are those people between Rs. 10 and Rs. 20 paid now, or is it intended to be paid?

Rama Varmha Tampuran.—They are being paid now.

President.—This allowance may not be necessary after orders have been passed on the Special Finance Committee report. That is a temporary allowance.

Mr. Thomas Manjuran.—How much will that come to?

Mr. K. Krishna Pisharodi.—About a sum of Rs. 3,000 a month.

Mr. Thomas Manjuran.—Then give them Rs. 15,000.

Dr. A. G. Menon.—Rs. 15,000 is quite enough for five months. So this amount may be provided.

Mr. A. L. Antony.—It is high time for us to know about the details of expenditure.

Mr. A. B. Salem.—That will come when the next demand is made.

Mr. C. J. Mathew.—During the first week of Chingam an announcement will be made.

Mr. A. L. Antony.—Suppose it is delayed for one year.

Dr. A. G. Menon.—No demand will be made. Then we need not give.

President.—I do not understand your point.

Mr. A. L. Antony.—We want to know the details at the earliest possible opportunity. Last year it was said that all will be ready within three months. Now this experience shows that it may not be possible to pass orders even at the commencement of next year.

Mr. T. M. Krishna Menon.—Some statements were made in the Council. No further elucidation is necessary.

Mr. K. T. Mathew.—Will those orders have effect from the 1st of Chingam 1105?

Mr. T. M. Krishna Menon.—That will be considered.

Mr. K. T. Mathew.—Is it the view of the Government or of the Member?

Mr. T. M. Krishna Menon.—On behalf of the Government.

Mr. Thomas Manjuran.—What we say is that this retrospective effect may be given from the year 1104 itself since the Special Finance Committee reported that it should be given effect to from the year 1104.

Mr. T. M. Krishna Menon.—All these will be noted.

Mr. K. T. Mathew.—You have allotted a certain sum in the budget which was presented to this House. Therefore, you should have already considered the date from which effect should be given.

Mr. T. M. Krishna Menon.—No consideration whatsoever.

Mr. K. T. Mathew.—You simply put some figures in the budget.

Mr. T. M. Krishna Menon.—Yes, to be thrown out.

President.—Government withdraws, therefore, an amount of Rs. 2,35,000.

Government withdrew an amount of Rs. 2,35,000.

Motions Nos. 2—9 and 11.

Mr. K. J. Antony.—*To omit the allotment of Rs. 2,50,000 for Lump Provision for reorganisation of Departments after consideration of the report of the Special Finance Committee.*

Mr. K. P. Kannan Nayar.— *Do*

Mr. P. Kumaran Ezhuthassan.— *Do*

Mr. C. A. Kunjunni Raja.— *Do*

Mr. C. J. Mathew.— *Do*

Mr. A. B. Salem.—*To omit the allotment of Rs. 2,62,583 for Miscellaneous.*

Mr. K. J. Antony.—*To reduce the total allotment of Rs. 3,58,400 for Demand No. XXXII by Re. 1.*

Mr. T. K. Nayar.—*To reduce the total allotment of Rs. 2,62,583 under Demand No. XXXII by Rs. 2,50,000.*

Mr. A. B. Salem.—*To reduce the total allotment of Rs. 3,58,400 under Demand No. XXXII by Rs. 2,50,000.*

Dr. A. G. Menon.—The whole demand may now be put to vote.

Mr. A. B. Salem.—There are other things to which we shall pass on. Motions Nos. 2 to 9 and 11 go on that account.

Dr. A. G. Menon.—Motions Nos. 2 to 9 are the same. No. 11 also relates to the same subject. Because there will be votable and non-votable items, the allotment may be voted as a supplementary grant after orders have been passed.

President.—Therefore, the only motion to be considered is No. 10 of Mr. C. A. Kunjunni Raja. All the others are not moved and hence are considered withdrawn.

As these motions were not moved, they were considered withdrawn.

Motion No. 10.

Mr. C. A. Kunjunni Raja.—*To reduce the total allotment of Rs. 3,58,400 under Demand No. XXXII by Re. 1.*

President.—No. 10, Mr. Raja.

Mr. C. A. Kunjunni Raja.—It is a token motion. It is to bring to the notice of the Government the grievances suffered by some of the judicial officers who are recruited direct from the Bar. Some of them have already retired and others are about to retire. There is a rule in British India that, in the matter of counting the period for pension, they may add to the period actually served the difference not exceeding 5 years between the age of 25 and the actual age at the time of entering the service. The rule runs to this effect:—

“In the case of.....the Provincial and Judicial Services.....in which recruitment is likely to take place normally after 25 years of age, officers recruited over that age may add to their service qualifying for superannuation pension (but not for any other class of pension) the actual period not exceeding five years by which their age at recruitment exceeded 25 years. This concession will not be granted to individual officers appointed at an age exceeding 25 years to Departments or appointments other than those included above. No officer can claim the benefit of this Article unless his actual qualifying service at the time he quits Government Service is not less than ten years.....The Provincial Civil Service:—For the present this term will include the following:—Sub-judges and District Munsiffs in Madras”.

I shall not mention the names of those who are suffering under this disability. Recruitment from the Bar after some experience can in the nature of things be only after the usual maximum age at the time of the recruitment.

President.—Gentlemen who are recruited from the Bar suffer mainly. In the case of two judges, there was a special covenant by the Government that they would be given half the pension at the age of 55.

Mr. C. A. Kunjunni Raja.—But this covenant does not exist in the case of all.

President.—It is a matter that requires consideration.

Mr. A. B. Salem.—I support that for the acceptance of the Government.

Mr. A. Eachara Menon.—Is it a fact that the Harbour Officer is considering to make Vypeen Island a base? Are they going to shift the Harbour?

President.—Which is your cut motion?

Mr. A. Eachara Menon.—There is one motion moved now under "Miscellaneous". The Special Officer comes under this "Miscellaneous".

President.—The point that we are now considering is "enhanced pension for judicial officers recruited from the Bar".

Mr. A. Eachara Menon.—That comes under 'Miscellaneous—total'.

Mr. K. T. Mathew.—It is only on a point of information.

President.—What is it that you want?

Mr. A. Eachara Menon.—Is it going to be shifted?

President.—They wanted some additional swinging berths so that the steamers may come and move about.

Now the matter before us is about the pension of those judicial officers recruited from the Bar. I think it came to my notice in connection with Mr. A. V. Krishna Ayyar, and the matter is being considered. This will be noted. Anyhow the point is already before us for consideration.

The motion was, with leave, withdrawn.

Dr. A. G. Menon.—The whole demand may now be put to the vote.

President.—That is, the amount demanded minus 2 lakhs and 35 thousand.

Question proposed: *That the allotment of Rs. 2,62,583 for Demand No. XXXII—Miscellaneous minus Rs. 2,35,000 be granted by the House.*

Question put and agreed to.

12. Demand No. I—Land Revenue—Rs. 2,11,783.

President.—Next, Demand No. I—Land Revenue.

Mr. T. M. Krishna Menon.—Sir, I rise to move for the grant of Rs. 2,11,783 under 'I—Land Revenue'. This demand is slightly in excess of the budget estimate for this year, and the increase is due mainly to the revision of the pay of the officers of the subordinate staff. A slight increase of a couple of thousand rupees is also necessitated on account of the proposals made to rent buildings for locating village offices in places where there are no Government buildings, for the training of a graduate in Survey and for the training of two clerks in

Account and Treasury work. Thus the total comes to Rs. 2,11,783. I request the sanction of the House for this allotment.

Motions Nos. 12—14.

Mr. V. V. Anantapadmanabha Ayyar.—*To reduce the allotment of Rs. 8,509 for Diwan Peishkar's Office Establishment by Rs. 480.*

Mr. K. Ayyappan.— *Do by Re. 1.*

Mr. V. V. Anantapadmanabha Ayyar.—*To reduce the allotment of Rs. 54,128 for Tahsildar's Establishment by Re. 1.*

President.—Motions 12—14 may be considered withdrawn as Messrs. Anantapadmanabha Ayyar and Ayyappan are absent.

As the Members were absent, these motions were considered withdrawn.

Motion No. 15.

Mr. P. Krishna Menon.—*To omit the allotment of Rs. 1,63,045 for Establishment.*

President.—No. 15, Mr. P. Krishna Menon.

Mr. P. Krishna Menon.—Sir, though I have put a cut motion in a very comprehensive form, namely, to cut the whole amount, I wish to reduce it to a token cut of 1 rupee.

President.—I allow you to do so.

Mr. P. Krishna Menon.—It will be seen from the cut motion that the motion was intended to emphasise the delay in, and disapproval of, the method of disbursing agricultural loans. It is seen from the budget that an amount of a lakh and twenty thousand rupees was available for distribution by way of agricultural loans. But, as a matter of fact, as is seen from the answer to a certain question which was answered in one of these days, No. 172, that the total amount disbursed is only Rs. 22,355. Of course, the House will remember that this amount available includes also the very generous and magnanimous gift of a lakh of rupees by His Highness our Gracious Maharaja, and it will also be found that no restriction of any kind with regard to the applicants was incorporated as a condition of the gift. Now, by way of answer to question 182, it was answered on Monday by the Diwan Peishkar that about 800 applications had to be refused. The correct number of applications that were received comes to 1003, as is seen from the answer to another question. So, out of these only 200 and odd applications were granted.

Mr. T. M. Krishna Menon.—400 and odd applications have been granted. I have furnished the statement. I suppose it is in answer to a question put by the Jenmi Member.

Mr. P. Krishna Menon.—I have got the statement, and the total number of applications received, as is seen from it, is

1003, and in answer to another question it is seen that about 800 have been refused.

Mr. T. M. Krishna Menon.—The number of applications granted is also given there. It is 400 and odd, I believe.

Mr. P. Krishna Menon.—If the other figures are correct, it cannot be 400.

Mr. T. M. Krishna Menon.—Then it may be a mistake there. I believe the number granted is 400 and odd. You can see the statement.

Mr. P. Krishna Menon.—Anyhow about the number I am not very particular. Why so many could not be granted when there were so many applications and so much money available also has been attempted to be answered in answer to another question, that is, 182. One reason for the refusal of the loan asked for was that it was in excess of rupees 1,000 which was the maximum decided to be advanced. It is there that I object. Who decided that the maximum should be Rs. 1,000 and Rs. 1,000 alone? His Highness our Gracious Maharaja did not say anything of the kind.

Mr. C. A. Kunjunni Raja.—There was a resolution in this House to that effect.

Mr. T. M. Krishna Menon.—Last time this House was of opinion that the amount should be distributed in small sums of Rs. 100 and Rs. 200.

Mr. P. Krishna Menon.—I am sorry last year's resolution did not refer to this 1 lakh.

Mr. T. M. Krishna Menon.—It did refer. You may ask any Member. Probably you were not present.

Mr. C. A. Kunjunni Raja.—It was in the Vrischigam session.

Mr. T. M. Krishna Menon.—The report of the Proceedings will show that.

Mr. C. A. Kunjunni Raja.—I then referred to His Highness the Maharaja's gift also.

Mr. T. M. Krishna Menon.—When I accepted it, there was a loud applause in this House, and I had to act up to the suggestions of the Council. Probably the Member is not aware of that.

President.—You need not lay emphasis on that point. The other points may be threshed out.

Mr. P. Krishna Menon.—The other point is only that this lump sum ought to have been disbursed when there was more money available. I can understand the principle enunciated when the suggestion was made by the House that it should be distributed as widely as possible.

President.—I remember one man wanted the whole of this 1 lakh.

Mr. T. M. Krishna Menon.—Another wanted 50,000, another 15,000, another 10,000. After all, 5,000 is only a fraction of 1 lakh.

Mr. P. Krishna Menon.—When money is available, why should it be restricted?

President.—Not a pie of this 1 lakh will be allowed to lapse, because it has been announced by His Gracious Highness the Maharaja that it must be fully utilised, if not last year at least this year. That is our policy. No amount out of it will be allowed to lapse.

Mr. P. Krishna Menon.—Then, if it will not lapse, is this restriction absolutely necessary?

Mr. T. M. Krishna Menon.—That is left to the House to decide upon.

Mr. P. Krishna Menon.—I do not understand this restriction of limiting it to Rs. 1,000.

President.—I suppose we argued the general question once in this House.

Mr. T. M. Krishna Menon.—The principle adopted was that it should benefit as many poor agriculturists as possible. I accepted that principle.

Mr. P. Krishna Menon.—And that is really the intention. I admit that. And it is also the intention of the Diwan Peishkar to benefit as many as possible. But if there are not as many as possible in a certain class, why not give it to the other class?

Mr. T. M. Krishna Menon. There you are thoroughly mistaken. There are yet below thousand applications who have to be paid, and I had to reject many. I shall explain all that.

Mr. P. Krishna Menon.—I cannot understand the reason for limiting it to a particular amount. Of course, I am fully alive to the intentions of the movers of the suggestion, *viz.*, as many as possible should be benefited. But if, by the best of exertions, as many as could be benefited are not beyond a certain number, and if there is more money available, why should it not be given to others who perhaps may have asked for more?

Mr. T. M. Krishna Menon.—There is no money available after that.

Mr. P. Krishna Menon.—When, out of a lakh, 22 or 23 thousand alone was disbursed, if there is no money available, as is expressed by the Diwan Peishkar, I cannot really follow him. There is money really available, but what he means is that he

still keeps that to be disbursed to persons who apply below the maximum that is fixed. What I respectfully beg to submit is that arbitrary fixing of the maximum is not justifiable. One would even think that it was done to keep the power of disbursement entirely in his own hands as only the Diwan has power to grant the loan if it is above Rs. 2,000.

Mr. T. M. Krishna Menon.—I do not want it. I am ready to surrender it to-day. I have spent only Rs. 22,000.

Mr. P. Krishna Menon.—It would appear, as the Diwan is the disbursing authority if it is above Rs. 2,000, that that power of the Diwan should also, according to the proposal in that scheme, be taken by him.

Mr. T. M. Krishna Menon.—That is delegated.

Mr. P. Krishna Menon.—It is *taken*. I say, under the guise of a plausible plea of distribution to as many as possible, that power of the Diwan can be taken if it is limited to Rs. 1,000.

President.—In the case of amounts above Rs. 2,000 he is to recommend to the Diwan.

Mr. P. Krishna Menon.—I said the sanction is to be made by the Diwan. I also believe that restriction is economically wrong also. After all, that money is to be spent for agricultural improvement. When a lump sum of Rs. 5,000 is spent upon agricultural improvement, it will certainly be of more value than ten 500 spent at ten different places. An amount below 5,000 cannot go to the benefit of all the poor. If improvements are effected by giving sums like 5,000, it will not be for the benefit of one alone. Therefore, the ground that it is to be distributed among as many applicants as possible is not an economically sound proposition. Of course, for the other reasons that are assigned for these restrictions, I have nothing to say except in regard to answer to the question (b) referred to above. If the security is not sufficient, if, after making a local enquiry, it is found to be not bona fide, certainly that has to be rejected. Failure to produce title deeds of property, in that case also, it has to be rejected. The last portion is "the principle followed in granting loan was to distribute the available fund among as many as possible of the *deserving* applicants". It is that qualification that I take exception to.]

Mr. T. M. Krishna Menon.—You mean to say it should be given to undeserving men?

Mr. P. Krishna Menon.—Well, if that is the legitimate conclusion that you can draw, I cannot prevent it.

Mr. T. M. Krishna Menon.—That is the logical conclusion.

Mr. P. Krishna Menon.—I believe, apart from other things, the deserving character of the application is to be determined by the intended use of the money, and if the intended use is of a deserving character, the application also deserves to be accepted. Not that undeserving applications should be accepted. Therefore, the restrictions regarding the granting of these loans may be sufficiently relaxed so as to make the loan available for persons who really need it.

Mr. A. B. Salem.—Sir, I would like to know whether these restrictive provisions have been made with the intention of benefiting the poor only to the exclusion of the improvement of agriculture?

Mr. T. M. Krishna Menon.—I shall place the whole thing before you now. I took charge of my office on the 17th Makaram. Soon after, there was a meeting of this Council and in that meeting certain suggestions were made by the House regarding this question which I accepted. Applications for loans amounting from 12 to 15 lakhs came pouring in, but there was provision to disburse only a lakh of rupees. Unless, therefore, some definite scheme was laid down, the thing was found to be altogether unworkable. I then issued this Proceedings:—

"Besides the large number of applications for agricultural loans received by the Tahsildars, as many as 576 applications have till now been received in the Diwan Peishkar's Office. The total amount applied for by these 576 applicants comes to about 12 lakhs of rupees. The total amount of the applications received direct by the Tahsildars may roughly be put down as 3 (three) lakhs of rupees. Thus there are applicants for agricultural loans amounting to about 15 lakhs of rupees. Including the usual allotment, there is only an allotment of Rs. 1,20,000 for the current year. It is, therefore, not possible to grant any large amount of loan to any of the applicants. The Diwan Peishkar apprehends that, unless a definite policy in the matter of granting agricultural loan applications is chalked out beforehand, the benefit of His Highness the Maharaja's Boon cannot be extended to all the really deserving agriculturists of the State. The Diwan Peishkar's idea, therefore, is to distribute the munificent grant sanctioned by His Highness the Maharaja to as many land-lords as possible in small sums just enough for the purpose of effecting *purely agricultural improvements*. This is also the opinion of the Legislative Council. No loan will be sanctioned for the cultivation of rubber, coffee and such other purposes which are more of an industrial nature than purely one of agriculture. With a view to make a fair distribution of the allotment sanctioned, the Diwan Peishkar proposes to hold a summary enquiry into the *bona fides* of the several applications and the status in life of the different applicants. The enquiry will be conducted in the centres noted below on the dates noted against each. The village officers, Revenue Inspectors and the Tahsildars should be present in the Diwan Peishkar's camp, at the time of enquiry. All the applicants should be directed to appear before the Diwan Peishkar on the dates at the different camps. The village officers and the Revenue Inspectors should be ready to give answers to the Diwan Peishkar to the questions that may be put to them particularly in the matter of the *bona fides* of the applications as also the

VOTING OF DEMANDS FOR GRANTS

2317

pecuniary circumstances of the applicants. The loans that can be granted to the different applicants will be settled by the Diwan Peishkar then after getting the necessary direct information from the parties by the Diwan Peishkar himself. All loan applications till now received should be arranged firka-war and village-war and placed before the Diwan Peishkar at the different camps by the respective Tahsildars with a list in the accompanying form. The applications pending enquiry with the Revenue Inspectors should also be obtained, included in the list, and placed before the Diwan Peishkar. The Taluk Office loan register should also be produced. The Diwan Peishkar's Office files will also be taken to camp."

Following this Proceedings I fixed the dates and places of enquiry and fixed the maximum amount for a loan at 1,000 rupees. Then I held camp at the places fixed and held public enquiries regarding the several applications of which lists had been prepared beforehand. Only those applications which were found to be deserving were admitted, and they were admitted only to the extent which was found to be absolutely necessary. This was the only thing which could be done under the circumstances, and I did it quite bonafide. Some delay was no doubt occasioned, but I could not help it. The investigations took time. Distribution is however steadily progressing. When I gave that answer referred to by the Hon'ble Member, only Rs. 22,000 had been distributed. Now it has come to about Rs. 40,000 or more. I made a full report of all that I did to the Diwan praying that my action may be approved. If any further information is necessary, I am ready to give it.

Mr. A. B. Salem.—I asked for some information whether you restrict the provision for the purpose of benefiting the poor only to the exclusion of the improvement of agriculture. For instance, the party may not be indigent. The party may be of some means. They may want to improve some agricultural land, for instance, put some dung or put some sand or something like that. The party may not come under the class of the poor. They may be of the middle class.

Mr. T. M. Krishna Menon.—If he has not cash enough but has to borrow, I may give him a loan. It all depends upon individual cases.

Mr. Thomas Manjuran.—What about the money unspent this year?

Mr. T. M. Krishna Menon.—I do not know whether it will lapse. But I took precaution to get Rs. 60,000 of this loan provided for next year.

Then with regard to the applicants for small loans, they are not exhausted; there are many more in the lists. If I am to give big amounts, I may not have to hold any enquiry, and I shall finish off this amount in 15 days if you want. I do not know the reason why the Hon'ble Member for Vyttila should

be so very aggrieved at this. I can very well appreciate his position, but of course I cannot help it.

Mr. P. Krishna Menon.—With regard to this provision, Rs. 80,000 is the budgetted amount for 1105. Is it over and above the amount available under the gift or with the gift?

President.—With the gift. That includes also the unspent amount of this 1 lakh of rupees.

We will rise for lunch.

The House rose for lunch at 2 p. m. and met again at 3 p. m. with the Deputy President in the Chair.

Deputy President.—Do you wish to say anything on this point?

Mr. M. A. Chakko.—I rise to support this token cut of Re. 1.

Deputy President.—Which is that?

Mr. M. A. Chakko.—Motion No. 15 of Mr. P. Krishna Menon, Member for Vyttila.

Deputy President.—You are going to speak on that motion?

Mr. A. B. Salem.—That cut motion was not withdrawn.

Mr. M. A. Chakko.—I rise to support that motion but on quite a different ground.

Deputy President.—Does he want to press it?

Mr. A. B. Salem.—It is not known.

Mr. Thomas Manjuran.—He has to say something on that matter.

Mr. M. A. Chakko.—I wish to bring before the Government as well as the House about the Government going back upon the Settlement Proclamation and laying a grasping hand on the assessed *pattadar's* rights on the land that is held by him. By the Settlement Proclamation and the subsequent settlement, all lands in Cochin State were divided.

Deputy President.—What has it to do with this cut motion? This is only connected with agricultural loans.

Mr. M. A. Chakko.—The object here is to reduce, to omit the allotment of Rs. 1,63,045 for establishment.

I am going to point out the mistake of the Diwan Peishkar in this matter. If the cut motion is not supported on one ground it can be supported on another ground.

Deputy President.—I do not know whether that is the object of these token motions. I don't think that it is.

This was a total omission. It was changed into a token motion. The object also he said, i. e., to draw the attention of the Government to the restriction in giving agricultural loans.

Mr. M. A. Chakko.—I was told that when a cut motion was brought forward any Member may speak on the motion.

Mr. T. M. Krishna Menon.—He said he changed it into a token motion.

Mr. T. K. Krishna Menon.—He reduced it to one rupee.

Mr. M. A. Chakko.—But, if the Chair says that I have no right, I don't speak.

Deputy President.—I have no objection.

Mr. M. A. Chakko.—If your ruling is otherwise, I will not speak.

Deputy President.—Strictly speaking that is not correct.

Mr. M. K. Raman.—In bringing a token motion, one Member might have alleged one reason and another Member might allege another reason.

Mr. Thomas Manjuran.—He may have to bring certain things before the Government.

Deputy President.—But I don't think it is proper. Otherwise there will be no restriction.

Mr. M. A. Chakko.—I simply affirm that the Government is going back on the Settlement policy by imposing new assessment upon the already assessed *patta* lands. There are *poramboke* lands as well as *patta* lands recognised by the Government in the Settlement. The revenues from the *patta* lands are fixed in the *patta*. Emoluments from the *poramboke* lands can be realised or taken by the Government by several means. Now, in taking the emoluments and the income that can be derived from *poramboke* lands, the Government is encroaching into the rights of the *pattadars* by getting a portion of the income that should go to them and appropriate it to the Government because the Government has *poramboke* lands adjoining the *patta* lands. What I wish to bring particularly to the notice of the Hon'ble Member for Revenue is that, in my constituency and in the Pallivirutti constituency, there are wet lands which are only cultivatable for about four months of the year—from June to the end of September. For the 8 months of the year they lie fallow and are flooded with salt water. These paddy fields are the breeding places of prawns. Prawn fishery has become a matter of considerable profit to the land-holder because there is a large export trade with foreign parts in cured prawns. There is a demand for it in China and also Burma because the Chinese and Burmese people are eating this. In olden times these fisheries had not been of much value either to the people or to the Government. In recent times it is a source of considerable income. Of late

the Government have been selling the fisheries in these assessed lands, simply on the ground that they have got some *poramboke* lands fringing these assessed lands. So the fish that is actually breeding and growing in the paddy lands is the property of the *pattadar* and the income that can be obtained from it is made the property of the Government simply because the fishing is not done in the paddy lands. Therefore, the Government may think that they are right in catching the fish and appropriating the value of it to the detriment of the *pattadar* in whose lands they are growing and multiplying. I may bring an analogy to the Government. The Customs revenue of Cochin State is derived by the export and the import trade that is done in British Cochin, and we, Cochin people, have been told that we will get a portion of the Customs revenue collected in British Cochin; and hitherto we have been getting a fixed amount. During Mr. Banerji's time we thought of the matter. We found that we have a right to a larger share, and told the British Government "you are getting a large income from Customs and you are not giving us a proper share". Such an eye-opener came to the *pattadars* themselves. They said that the Government were not giving them their due share when they realise a large revenue on fisheries extending over both *patta* and *poramboke* lands. Therefore, a sort of convention like the interportal convention was come to between the ryots or owners of assessed lands and the Diwan Peishkar representing the Sirkar who has claim for the fisheries of the *poramboke*. It was during the time of Mr. Bhore that the assessed land-owners' rights were recognised, and they were allowed a share. A *Krishi Samajam* was formed at the time in a particular paddy flat, and the Government recognised their rights and they were allowed a share. Subsequently *Krishi Samajams* in the adjoining paddy flats were formed and the Diwan Peishkar was approached in this matter and an understanding was come to. From that time, up to last year, the Government desisted from auctioning out the fisheries but allowed the *Samajam* to do the fishing for the whole body of *pattadars* and give to the Government a fixed portion. Generally that proportion was fixed having regard to the extent of paddy lands and *poramboke* lands in the enclosure which formed a fishery. Last year, by some misunderstanding or by want of appreciation of the *pattadar's* rights, the Government went and auctioned the fisheries. There is no justification to the dictum that might is right and we are going to appropriate it. I say that is wrong. The Government must consider what rights they have and what rights the *pattadars* have. The *pattadar's* rights must be respected. They should

not say we have control over the *poramboke* lands, we will do as we like. I wish to bring it to the notice of the Government and the notice of this House. There is a grievance which has to be redressed and I want to know what the Hon'ble Member for Revenue has to say.

Mr. T. M. Krishna Menon.—In one word I may say. Perhaps he may have to say something more.

There was some talk about this matter between the Hon'ble Member and myself, and although I was not convinced about the rights, I said I would look into the matter and see if anything could be done. No further answer can be given now. I said I would look into the matter and see if they had any legitimate grievance which requires consideration. Beyond that, I cannot say anything.

Motion No. 29.

Mr. T. A. Ramachandra Ayyar.—*To reduce the allotment of Rs. 2,44,300 for Land Revenue by Re. 1.*

മിസ്റ്റർ ടി. എ. രാമചന്ദ്രയ്യർ.—Cut 29 എന്റെ ധാരണയാണ്. അത് loan—നെപറ്റിത്തന്നെയാണ്. അത് ഞാൻ അവതരിപ്പിക്കുന്നില്ല. മഹാരാജാവ് തിരുമനസ്സുകൊണ്ട് ഇതു കൊടുക്കുവാൻ അയാൾ ഉള്ള ഉദ്ദേശം എത്രതന്നെ നന്നായിരുന്നുവെന്ന് വാങ്ങുവാൻ ബുദ്ധിമുട്ടുകൾ വളരെയുണ്ട്. ഇതുകൊടുത്താൽ കൂടി കടം കിട്ടുവാൻ ഞങ്ങൾ വിശേഷാൽ ൧൦ ക. ചിലവു വെക്കും. അത് ഗവണ്മെന്റിനുള്ളതല്ലെന്നു കൊടുത്താൽ നന്നാണ്.

മിസ്റ്റർ ടി. എം. കൃഷ്ണമേനോൻ.—അത് ഗവണ്മെന്റിന്റെ ചെലവാണ്. എന്നാൽ ൧൦൦ ക. ക്കു മേൽ അപേക്ഷിക്കുന്നവർക്ക് കൊടുക്കുകയും വേണം.

മിസ്റ്റർ എം. കെ. രാമൻ.—ലോൺ ചോദിച്ചതോ?

മിസ്റ്റർ ടി. എം. കൃഷ്ണമേനോൻ.—അല്ല. അനുവദിച്ചതും അങ്ങനെയാക്കിയിട്ടുണ്ട്.

ഡെപ്യൂട്ടി പ്രസിഡൻ്റ്.—അവർക്കുവേണ്ടി നിങ്ങൾ ജാമ്പ് ചെയ്താൽ കൊടുക്കുകയില്ലേ?

മിസ്റ്റർ ടി. എം. കൃഷ്ണമേനോൻ.—ഉവ്വ്.

ഡെപ്യൂട്ടി പ്രസിഡൻ്റ്.—പിന്നെയെന്താ?

മിസ്റ്റർ ടി. എ. രാമചന്ദ്രയ്യർ.—ഇതിപ്പോൾ മഹാരാജാവ് തിരുമനസ്സുകൊണ്ട് വരുകൊടുക്കുന്ന ഒരു ദൈവമായെന്നിട്ടും പുരാരതി തരില്ല എന്നാണ് പറയുന്നത്. അതാണ് കഷ്ടം.

മിസ്റ്റർ ടി. എം. കൃഷ്ണമേനോൻ.—പുരാരതിയാണത്.

Motion No. 29 was considered withdrawn.

മിസ്റ്റർ എം. കെ. രാമൻ.—ഒരു സംഗതി. Unencumbered property വേണമെന്നു വെയ്ക്കുന്നത് വളരെ ബുദ്ധിമുട്ടാണ്.

മിസ്റ്റർ ടി. എം. കൃഷ്ണമേനോൻ.—അതറിയാം.

മിസ്റ്റർ എം. കെ. രാമൻ.—അവർക്കു കറച്ചു വെട്ടുകയും ഉണ്ടാക്കിയെടുക്കും.

മിസ്റ്റർ ടി. എം. കൃഷ്ണമേനോൻ.—അതു explain ചെയ്തു. കടംപിരിയ്ക്കുവാൻ ബുദ്ധിമുട്ടുണ്ടാകും. വസ്തു വിലയേറിയതായാട്ടും ഒക്കെ വരും. ഗവണ്മെന്റ് അതിനൊരു പാട്ടിയാകാൻ കഴിയില്ല.

മിസ്റ്റർ കെ. ടി. മാത്യു.—അതു ശരിയാണ്. ഗവണ്മെന്റ് അങ്ങനെയൊന്നു ചെയ്യട്ടെ.

മിസ്റ്റർ എ. എസ്. ഹരിഹരയ്യർ.—ഇനി ഒരു സംഗതകൂടി പറയാനുണ്ട്. ഗവണ്മെന്റ് കടം കൊടുക്കുന്നതിൽ മുഖടമുള്ള വസ്തു വിഷയം കൊടുക്കുന്നതല്ലെന്നു അവരെ അറിയിച്ചിട്ടുണ്ടോ?

മിസ്റ്റർ ടി. എം. കൃഷ്ണമേനോൻ.—Enquiry സമയത്തു പറഞ്ഞിട്ടുണ്ട്.

ഡെപ്യൂട്ടി പ്രസിഡൻ്റ്.—ആ സമയത്തു ആവശ്യമുള്ളവരെല്ലാം അറിഞ്ഞിട്ടുണ്ട്.

മിസ്റ്റർ എ. എസ്. ഹരിഹരയ്യർ.—അനാവശ്യമായ അവർ എന്തിന്നു ചിലവെടുക്കുന്നു? Declaration കൊടുത്തുകഴിഞ്ഞാൽ ഗവണ്മെന്റുകൊടുക്കുന്നതു സൂക്ഷിക്കണം.

ഡെപ്യൂട്ടി പ്രസിഡൻ്റ്.—ഗവണ്മെന്റ് അതൊക്കെ നോക്കുന്നതു നമ്മളെ അറിയിച്ചിട്ടില്ലല്ലോ.

മിസ്റ്റർ എ. എസ്. ഹരിഹരയ്യർ.—നമ്മളെപ്പോലെയല്ലല്ലോ പലരും.

മിസ്റ്റർ ടി. എം. കൃഷ്ണമേനോൻ.—ഇതിൽ കഴിയുന്ന സഹായമൊക്കെ ചെയ്യുന്നുണ്ട്.

The motion was, with leave, withdrawn.

Motion No. 16.

Mr. K. Ayyappan.—*To reduce the allotment of Rs. 1,88,727 for Establishment by Re. 1.*

Deputy President.—Motion No. 16. The Member is absent.

Hence the motion was considered withdrawn.

Motion No. 17.

Mr. A. Eachara Menon.—*To reduce the allotment of Rs. 1,63,045 for Establishment by Re. 1.*

Deputy President.—Then No. 17.

Mr. A. Eachara Menon.—I don't move that.

Hence the motion was considered withdrawn.

Motion No. 18.

Mr. V. D. Ouseph.—*To reduce the allotment of Rs. 1,88,727 for A—Establishment by Re. 1.*

Deputy President.—Motion No. 18. The Member is absent.

Hence the motion was considered withdrawn.

Motion No. 19.

Mr. A. B. Salem.—To reduce the allotment of Rs. 500 for Survey training to a graduate clerk by Re. 1.

Deputy President.—Motion No. 19, Mr. Salem.

Mr. A. B. Salem.—I don't move.

Hence the motion was considered withdrawn.

Motion No. 20.

Mr. K. Ayyappan.—To reduce the allotment of Rs. 5,000 for training in Pisciculture by Re. 1.

Deputy President.—Motion No. 20. The Member is absent.

Hence the motion was considered withdrawn.

Motion No. 21.

Mr. A. B. Salem.—To reduce the allotment of Rs. 5,000 for training in Pisciculture by Re. 1.

Deputy President.—No. 21, Mr. A. B. Salem.

Mr. A. B. Salem.—I tabled this cut for getting some more information from the Government regarding the training of the students for Pisciculture. I know Government are taking great steps for the amelioration of the condition of the fishermen and are also going to send a number of students to Calicut to the Fishery school and also to Travancore for training. Regarding this deputation of students to Japan I should like to know whether the Government are in possession of any information as to the Institute to which they are sending the students or propose to send them, what previous training in fisheries these students who are going there are to be given locally. If I get that information, I will be satisfied.

Rao Sahib Mr. C. Matthai.—The idea, to begin with, is to borrow the services of 4 young men from Malabar who have been trained in the Institute at Calicut. We are going to open Fishery schools in four of our important fishery areas. We have selected the four areas. As soon as we get these men from Calicut, we are going to open these schools straight-away, and these men will be borrowed for a specified period of time. At the same time we are going to send 8 of our own men to the Institute at Calicut for training so that they may later on be put in charge of these schools. They will be run more or less on the type of our Industrial schools, though the boys who attend these schools will generally belong to the fishing community. They will have finished their elementary education, so that there will be no necessity to teach them Reading, Writing and Arithmetic.

They will be taught fishing and other subjects that will help them in the pursuit of fishing.

Mr. A. B. Salem.—What training are you going to give to the student going to Japan?

Rao Sahib Mr. C. Matthai.—We have selected a Vala graduate. He is in my Department. I am going to send him to the Diwan Peishkar. After gaining local knowledge, he will be sent to Madras, and if necessary, to Japan.

Mr. A. B. Salem.—I don't press.

The motion was, with leave, withdrawn.

Motion No. 22.

Mr. A. B. Salem.—To omit the allotment of Rs. 2,11,783 for Land Revenue—Total.

Deputy President.—No. 22, Mr. A. B. Salem.

Mr. A. B. Salem.—I don't move.

Hence the motion was considered withdrawn.

Motion No. 23.

Mr. A. L. Antony.—To reduce the allotment of Rs. 2,44,300 for Land Revenue by Re. 1.

Deputy President.—No. 23, Mr. A. L. Antony.

Mr. A. L. Antony.—I tabled this motion first to convey the thanks of the people of my constituency, who were suffering from the floods, for the kind help rendered by the Government, especially to the Diwan Peishkar for the distribution of rice for three days to the helpless and the poor. My constituency was to the utmost flooded by the flood more than any other constituency of our State. On both sides of the Karuvannur river the people were made homeless by the floods and all the fields were submerged under water. Some crops were even washed away, and I request to extend this help still further in the way of giving some remission in taxes for those who have lost their paddy fields and also to give them some loans for building some homes, as the Government has done in the floods of 1929. I want to impress in the minds of the Government to extend the same sympathy as they have extended last time to all these sufferers and expecting that, I withdraw this motion.

Mr. T. M. Krishna Menon.—I have already issued instructions to the Tahsildars to make local inspection and report as to the number of houses lost by the floods and the extent of the loss to crops. Correct information has to be obtained in these matters, and I expect to get it soon. One gentleman has given me a list of the houses destroyed in his constituency. That has been sent to the Tahsildar for verification. Something will be done when statistics are collected.

The motion was, with leave, withdrawn.

Motion No. 24.

Mr. A. L. Antony.—*To reduce the allotment of Rs. 2,44,300 for Land Revenue by Re. 1.*

Deputy President.—No. 24, Mr. A. L. Antony.

Mr. A. L. Antony.—I don't move that.

Hence the motion was considered withdrawn.

Motion No. 25.

Mr. A. Eachara Menon.—*To reduce the allotment of Rs. 2,11,783 for Land Revenue by Re 1.*

Deputy President.—Motion No. 25.

Mr. A. Eachara Menon.—I have tabled this motion to bring to the notice of the Government the injustice under which the forest exclusions are assessed. According to the Proclamation the highest rate of assessment for *parambas* is Rs. 2 in the Chittur Taluk. In the other taluks it is only Re. 1-8-0. Here the forests are assessed at Rs. 2-8-0. These forest exclusions are lands on a higher level than the lands which were assessed. The most fertile lands are assessed only at Rs. 2. These are high level lands and they are lying in the malarial tracts. On what consideration these forest exclusions are assessed nobody knows. My only contention is that these lands are assessed at Rs. 2. The *parambas* without taxable trees are divided according to the productive capacity in 8 *tharams* in Chittur. The lands lying adjacent to the forest exclusions are assessed only at 4 annas or 8 annas. These forest exclusions are assessed at ten times the usual assessment. In my constituency the major portions of the land are *parambas*. These *parambas* are productive ones and they are classed in the second or the third *tharams*. If Rs. 2-8-0 is the rate for lands which are less productive and which lie in malarial tracts, I do not know what will be the rate at which these *parambas* will be taxed. Now it is ten times the usual assessment. Settled lands are assessed at 0-4-0. The forest exclusions are assessed at Rs. 2-8-0. If this is the rate to be followed, if that is the limit of taxation for the *parambas*, I wonder what will be the rate for the productive lands. Therefore, I wish to know on what consideration it is fixed at Rs. 2-8-0.

Mr. T. M. Krishna Menon.—There is some difficulty in answering this question. The rate was fixed by my predecessor who had not had the disadvantage of having been a judicial officer. He was the most experienced Revenue Officer and he must have fixed the rate by looking at the productive and other capacities of the land.

Mr. A. Eachara Menon.—High level lands in the malarial tracts.

Mr. T. M. Krishna Menon.—I searched for records, if any, disclosing the reasons which induced my predecessor for fixing the rate. The other day I had been to Chittur, and in passing some of these lands I found that ground nut is grown there in abundance. Recently I have been reading in a paper that ground nut may be put to a thousand and one uses, for instance, to prepare milk, paints, medicines, etc., etc. From that article I find that there are few things under the Sun which cannot be made from ground nut.

Mr. A. Eachara Menon.—If ground nut is plentiful. These are not forests.

Mr. T. M. Krishna Menon.—The *kanom* lands are equally good lands. These virgin lands are very good for dry cultivation.

Mr. A. Eachara Menon.—What about malaria?

Mr. T. M. Krishna Menon.—Crops are not affected by malaria. I am also told that some of these lands can be converted into paddy fields.

Mr. A. Eachara Menon.—No. Is it not a fact that these lands are placed under the *tharam* considering that these places are malarial tracts?

Mr. T. M. Krishna Menon.—That appeared to me to be the ground.

Deputy President.—You don't press.

Mr. A. Eachara Menon.—I don't press?

The motion was, with leave, withdrawn.

Motion No. 26.

Mr. P. Kumaran Ezhuthassan.—*To reduce the allotment of Rs. 2,44,300 for Land Revenue by Re. 1.*

Deputy President.—Motion No. 26, by Mr. P. Kumaran Ezhuthassan. The Member is absent.

Hence the motion was considered withdrawn.

Motion No. 27.

Mr. A. K. Kunhi Moideen.—*To reduce the total allotment of Rs. 2,11,783 under Demand No. 1 by Re. 1.*

മാസ്റ്റർ എ. കെ. കുഞ്ഞുമൊയ്തീൻ.—മൈനർ ഫിഷറീസിൽ ചുമത്താവുന്ന കരം ഗവണ്മെണ്ടു എടുത്തുകൊടുക്കണമെന്നു ഉൽബോധിപ്പിക്കുവാനാണ് ഞാൻ ഈ ഉപക്ഷേപം ഹാജരാക്കിയതു. ചുണ്ട, വീട്ടുവല മുതലായവ ഉപയോഗിക്കുന്നവർ ദരിദ്രരാണ്. അവർക്കു ഇതൊരു ഉപജീവനമാർഗ്ഗം മാത്രമേയുള്ളൂ. അതു നഷ്ടപ്പെടുത്തരുത്. തിരുനാവായി പ്രമാണിച്ചുള്ള അനുഗ്രഹങ്ങൾ രാജ്യത്തിൽ സാമ്പത്തികമായ അനുഭവവിധിക്ക് തരമില്ലല്ലോ. രാജകീയ വൃക്ഷങ്ങളും മറ്റും എല്ലാദിക്കിലുമില്ല പ്രത്യേകിച്ചു കായലോരങ്ങളിലില്ല. ൧൦ ക. യിൽ താഴെയുള്ള ശമ്പളം കൂട്ടിയതു

VOTING OF DEMANDS FOR GRANTS

2327

കൊണ്ടും ഈ മീൻപിടുത്തക്കാരെപ്പോലെയുള്ളവർക്കു തുണമാണു മില്ല. അതുകൊണ്ടു ഈ ഉപകാരം അവർക്കു ചെയ്തുകൊടുത്താലെ സാധുക്കൾക്കു തുണമുണ്ടാവുകയുള്ളു. Cranganur ൽ വെച്ചുണ്ടായ അരയന്മാരുടെ Conference ൽ വിദേശ പഠനം കഴിഞ്ഞു Madras Fisheries Director ആയിരുന്ന മാസ്റ്റർ ഗോവിന്ദനായിരുന്നു അദ്ധ്യക്ഷൻ. അദ്ദേഹം ഇവിടെ ഇങ്ങനെയൊരു ഏർപ്പാടു ഉണ്ടെന്നുകേട്ടിട്ടു വളരെ ലജ്ജിക്കുന്നുവെന്നും ഇതു അക്രമമാണെന്നും മറ്റൊരു മല്ലെന്നും പറയുകയുണ്ടായി. അതുകൊണ്ടു ഗവണ്മെണ്ടു ഭയപ്പെട്ടു ഈ തടസ്സത്തെ എടുത്തുകളഞ്ഞു ഈ സാധുക്കളെ രക്ഷിക്കണമെന്നുപേക്ഷിച്ചുകൊണ്ടു ഈ ഉപക്ഷേപത്തെ അവതരിപ്പിച്ചുകൊള്ളുന്നു.

Mr. A. B. Salem.—I rise to support this motion. I have been pressing upon the attention of the Government many a time both inside this House as well as in the meetings of the Standing Finance Committee to do something for this fishery. We get about Rs. 7,200 a year from the fishing stakes, the chinese nets and from the various kinds of minor fishing. Of course, I can understand some levy being taken from the fishing stakes. They are more or less valuable property. They are considered as property and they are sometimes held not by the actual fishermen but by other owners who lease them to the men who go out to catch the fish. So that there is some justification to put a levy on the fishing stakes. Regarding the other income it is certainly not justifiable.

Mr. Thomas Manjuran.—What is the extent of that, please?

I did not realise till now that *choonda* is licensed, and *veesu vala*.

Mr. T. M. Krishna Menon.—It may be. I shall look into it.

Mr. A. B. Salem.—With regard to the chinese nets, they are taxed.

That, of course, also is not a justifiable taxation for these reasons. When a chinese net is used from *poromboke* lands, certainly Government can impose a rate because the land is being used for the sake of catching the fish. But I cannot see the justification when a chinese net is worked from a private owner's land itself.

Mr. T. M. Krishna Menon.—In most cases they encroach upon *poromboke* lands, a portion of the private land and *poromboke* land.

Mr. A. B. Salem.—How can it be?

Mr. T. M. Krishna Menon.—Two posts may be in the private lands and two posts in the *poromboke* land.

Mr. A. B. Salem.—For that there will be some justification. When they are entirely upon private lands?

Mr. T. M. Krishna Menon.—You cannot find any such thing. It must extend into the backwater.

Mr. A. B. Salem.—Let us not stretch that argument. Because they must catch the fish from the backwater which is a *poromboke* and anything taken from the *poromboke* must give a return unto the Government. Fish in running water is free to be caught by anybody like birds caught from the air, so that, to levy a tax upon that would not be right. It is not done anywhere in the Presidency except where the fishery is enclosed on all sides or is in Government land itself. This is a very poor class of people who have not got enough to live from hand to mouth. I can understand in the case of people living from hand to mouth. These are not people living from hand to mouth, very precarious kind of occupation, very miserably housed, very miserably dressed, very miserably advanced people, and to take taxation from them is unjustifiable. The total income is only Rs. 7,200.

Mr. Thomas Manjuran.—That includes fishing stakes.

Mr. A. B. Salem.—Therefore, this request, well put by the Hon'ble Member for Cranganur, is deserving of all consideration at the hands of the Government.

Mr. C. J. Mathew.—There is a complaint in my constituency, Sir. It appears that even the poor people are not allowed to catch fish in the Chalakkudi river.

Deputy President.—Are rich people allowed?

Mr. C. J. Mathew.—Rich people too. Poor people suffer most seriously. Poor people will go probably in the evening only in order to get one or two fishes for supper.

മിസ്റ്റർ ഐ. ഇ. അമ്പുക്കൻ.—പുഴ ലേലം വിളിച്ചു കൊടുത്തുവരികയല്ലേ?

മിസ്റ്റർ സി. ജെ. മാത്യു.—അതെ.

മിസ്റ്റർ ഐ. ഇ. അമ്പുക്കൻ.—അപ്പോൾ ലേലക്കാരൻ മാത്രമല്ല മത്സ്യം പിടിക്കാൻ അവകാശമുള്ള, "അതുകൊണ്ട്" ലേലം തന്നെ നിർത്തിക്കളയണമെന്നാണ് പറയുന്നത്.

Mr. C. J. Mathew.—I say that all must be freely allowed to fish. I pray the Government that all people may be allowed freely to fish from the Chalakkudi river and such fresh water rivers in the State and the little amount of tax levied on them may be easily ignored.

മിസ്റ്റർ ഐ. ഇ. അമ്പുക്കൻ.—ഇപ്പോഴത്തെ നിയമപ്രകാരം മുണ്ടക്കും കൂടി കരം ചുമത്തേണ്ടതായ ട്രാണിരിക്കുന്നത്. അതു നിബന്ധനയിൽ ഇരിക്കുന്നില്ലെന്നുള്ളതുതന്നെ വലിയ സമാധാനം.

നം. നിയമമാണ് മാറേണ്ടതു. — അതിന്നു Stakes മുതലായ സ്ഥലങ്ങളിൽ സ്ഥിരപ്പെടുത്തിയിരിക്കുന്നതായ യന്ത്രങ്ങൾകൊണ്ടു പഠിക്കുന്നതൊഴിച്ചു കൊണ്ടുടക്കുന്ന സാധനങ്ങൾകൊണ്ടു മത്സ്യം പഠിക്കുന്നതിന്നു കരം ചുമത്തുന്നതു വലിയ കഷ്ടമാണ്. ഫോറസ്റ്റിൽ ഇത്തരം മുതലായ സാധനങ്ങൾക്കു ചുമമില്ല. അതു സാധുക്കൾക്കു വളരെ ഉപകാരമാണ്. അതുപോലെ തന്നെ ഇതുകാര്യത്തിലും ഗവണ്മെന്റ് ദയവു വിചാരിക്കേണ്ടതു അത്യാവശ്യം.

Mr. T. M. Krishna Menon.—I am not aware. I shall make a note of this and shall consider about this *chunda*, fishing, etc.

മിസ്റ്റർ ഐ. ഇ. അമ്പുക്കൻ.—തിരുവിതാംകൂറിൽ നമ്മുടെ ആളുകളും പഠിക്കുന്നുണ്ടു.

Mr. M. K. Raman.—One thing more about fishing stakes. Here the Government are maintaining certain posts. Are these posts put up by Government?

Mr. T. M. Krishna Menon.—Yes. They are caution posts. They are put up by Government and lighted. The fishing men have nothing to do with them. I am quite conversant with this

Mr. M. K. Raman.—I think it is very hard to tax the people who fish from the under-line. These are very hard cases.

Mr. T. M. Krishna Menon.—I too sympathise. With regard to this, we find others coming and fishing in our waters. I say, for instance, when I was going to Pallippuram, I saw many people from Parur coming and fishing. And also people from Ramanthuruth come and fish. We levy the tax only for the benefit of our people. So that others may not come and fish in our waters.

Mr. C. J. Mathew.—At Chalakkudi certain portions of the river are auctioned. So that those people may be vigilant to see that nobody fish in that river.

The motion was, with leave, withdrawn.

Motion No. 28.

Mr. C. V. Kuriyan.—*To reduce the allotment of Rs. 2,44,300 for Land Revenue by Rs. 1.*

Deputy President.—No. 28 stands in the name of Mr. C. V. Kuriyan.

Mr. C. V. Kuriyan.—Now that the time has come for a fresh Settlement of lands after the expiry of 30 years, I deem it proper to give a sound warning to the Government and at present to impress upon this Council the bad condition of ryots and also to impress upon this House the undue delay by the Gov.

ernment in taking measures to alleviate their distress and also to say that, if some ameliorating measures have not been adopted, there will be a staunch fight among the agricultural classes at the time when the lands are settled for a second time. Now, land revenue is considered to be the most important source of revenue to the Government. It is collected to meet all the demands of the State and also to improve the agricultural prosperity of the ryots. Now it appears with our Government that the Land Revenue Department's policy is only to collect tax, but they forget the obligation cast upon them to improve their lot, and as a matter of fact, these agricultural classes are put to great loss year after year on account of visitations of drought and flood in alternate years.

Mr. T. M. Krishna Menon.—How is the Land Revenue Department responsible?

Mr. C. V. Kuriyan.—I refer to Government. I only say about the bad condition of the ryots. I don't say that the taxes at present collected are too big for the ryots to pay at present. But ever since the Settlement, with the change of time and with the change of monsoon, we experience year after year that the lands are becoming more and more barren, and the yield from the land is also reducing itself. For the last so many years, the yield seems to be so poor that you are compelled out of the meagre family budget to provide for the tax. I say it is collected from the people. It is extorted from us, because you do not discharge your obligation to us and because we do not get any corresponding advantage from the Government. The lands have deteriorated so much that, counting the cost of cultivation, the cost of seeds and the cost of labour and some allowance for the visitation of droughts on account of the vagaries of monsoon, these ryots are put to great loss instead of at least getting a marginal profit. Now what should be the position of the Government under the present condition? How to meet this situation? Local paddy is hardly sufficient to meet the demands of our State for at least three months. While it gets taxes from these ryots, it is the prime duty of the Government to see that these lands are improved and that scientific systems are introduced to bring in intensive cultivation. The yield of the land also has diminished and so the ryots have to be given facilities for irrigation, knowledge of scientific manure, and scientific implements, so that they can get some profit at least to pay taxes. Now, our Government has done practically nothing in this respect. They have not embarked upon original costly irrigation schemes by which benefits can reach the very doors of the ryots, schemes which are of far-reaching consequences to the ryots. I would

like, in this connection, to refer to the undue delay in the matter of irrigation. I have been examining the Administration Reports of several last years to see if an attempt at granting irrigation facilities has been made by Government. And though Government have investigated for all these years, till now we have not got any substantial scheme. I also say that the Agricultural Department has not been devoting proper attention to the improvement of agriculture in our lands. And I have tabled this motion expressly for the purpose of bringing to the notice of Government that the local condition of the people has been so poor that, in the case of a re-settlement, people will be unwilling to pay an additional taxation. There were resolutions passed in this Council or at least proposed in this Council to start a Land-Mortgage Bank. Now, I may say all the lands held by the ryots have been mostly encumbered not on account of their lavish expenditure, not on account of their standard of living, but because they meet with failure of crops every year. They are compelled to mortgage their properties for the bare necessities of life. They are mortgaging their properties heavily and the Registry Office will surely testify to my proposition. It is being felt by the generality of people, and this is one of the primary causes of people becoming unpopular with the present Government. The rural or agricultural people do not derive any advantage from the Government in furtherance of agriculture. It is to impress upon this House the urgent necessity to improve the condition of agricultural classes that I tabled this motion. I would like to refer in this connection that the Land Revenue Department is sometimes harassing the ryots, who, after spending so much to reclamation, are compelled to pay double crop assessment on single crop lands just to replenish the treasury of our State.

Deputy President.—What can the Government do?

Mr. C. V. Kuriyan.—It is charging a premium on labour which the Government should not. It is taxing the people.

Mr. A. Eachara Menon.—That is imposing an assessment for double crop on single crop lands.

Mr. T. M. Krishna Menon.—Have you read section 10?

Mr. C. V. Kuriyan.—Yes. I object to the existing law. I say that it is high time for the Government to change it.

Mr. T. M. Krishna Menon.—I have never come across any instance.

Mr. C. V. Kuriyan.—I would like to refer in this connection to the policy of the Government in respect of *kole* lands. We have been ever expecting some irrigation facilities. The

scheme was investigated and nothing has come out of it. We regret that Government has not done anything in that matter. I also would like to draw the attention of the Land Revenue Department in respect of *kole* cultivation in my constituency where the labouring population sow some seeds on the borders of canals for which neighbouring land-owners are heavily taxed. There are hundreds of instances where the Revenue Inspectors and Village Menons prepare long lists of so-called trespassers to see that they get something out of it. I request the Departmental Head to remedy this.

Mr. T. M. Krishna Menon.—Are they taxed this year?

Mr. C. V. Kuriyan.—This year the Member for Land Revenue wanted to avoid levying tax from these people, seeing that it is cultivated by the depressed classes, by the Pulayas who depended on that crop just to have a living for one or two weeks. This levying of taxes from the neighbouring land-owners for no fault of theirs is unjust. I would like to have an assurance from the Hon'ble Member that he will see that this is discontinued hereafter.

Mr. T. M. Krishna Menon.—That has not been done this year at all.

Mr. C. V. Kuriyan.—But that is not giving an assurance that it won't be levied in future. I would also refer that a resolution has been passed in this Council that quarrying stones for agricultural purposes should not be met with any taxation from the Government. I request that this resolution may be given effect to. Because we really feel the difficulty of repairing bunds in *kole* lands, for which both the Government and the landlord are heavily taxing. Now, in spite of all these, I will say that our Gracious Highness was very much pleased to give such boons as are really conducive to the agricultural classes, and since His wishes are that the prosperity of agricultural classes should be improved, our Government also will hereafter take a very serious view of this matter to improve the condition of the agricultural population, especially at this time when re-settlement is at hand, when people will have to complain of taxes, and to see that they receive some of the amenities that are necessary for cultivation. I also hope that the Hon'ble Member for Land Revenue and Government in particular will try to alleviate much of the distress caused by the recent flood. I am very glad that the Hon'ble Member for Land Revenue has given us an assurance of relieving the poor who are divested of small little homes especially in my constituency.

The motion was, with leave, withdrawn.

Motion No. 30.

Mr. A. B. Salem.—*To reduce the allotment of Rs. 2,44,300 for Land Revenue by Re. 1.*

Deputy President.—Motion No. 30, Mr. Salem.

Mr. A. B. Salem.—I don't want to move it.

Hence the motion was considered withdrawn.

Mr. Thomas Manjuran.—The demand may be put to the vote.

Question proposed:—*That the allotment of Rs. 2,11,783 for Demand No. 1—Land Revenue be voted for by the House.*

Question put and agreed to.

13. Demand No. III—Co-operative Societies—Rs. 13,650.

Deputy President.—Next Demand is No. III—Co-operative Societies.

Rama Varmha Tampuran.—Sir, I rise to move for a grant of Rs. 13,650 under 'III—Co-operative Societies.' The variations have all been explained by the Finance Member in his Memorandum, and I hope no further explanation by way of elucidation of the variations in the budget figures is necessary now.

The provision under 'Temporary Establishment' (Rs. 1,676) is absolutely necessary to work the Department efficiently. The number of societies is increasing rapidly. From 155 when the establishment was sanctioned in 1103 it has now risen to 183. The volume of transactions is also increasing. In addition applications for new societies are also coming in. These compel us to continue the temporary establishment.

While saying that the volume of transactions is increasing, I have also to say that Government propose to bring into existence Unions of Societies within a definite area and entrust to them the duties of educating and guiding these Societies on sound lines. For this purpose a sum of Rs. 1,200 is specially allotted under 'grant to Supervising Unions.' During their initial stage these unions cannot stand on their own legs. The pecuniary help proposed to be given to these bodies is necessary if they are to function properly. Side by side with this, it is also proposed to get the senior hands in the Registrar's office trained one by one in the theory and the practice of co-operation, so that, except in the matter of work of a routine nature, it may be that these are the hands that are employed in the office.

Motion No. 31.

Mr. A. L. Antony.—*To omit the allotment of Rs. 500 for lump provision for training of clerks in the Madras Co-operative Union.*

Deputy President.—Motion No. 31 is in the name of Mr. A. L. Antony.

Mr. A. L. Antony.—Sir, I have tabled this motion to bring

to the notice of this House that, when there is a demand for employment from trained persons especially at this time of unemployment, I say, they may be appointed instead of sending these clerks for training. It is quite possible that the students will go for training at their own expense to Madras and get themselves trained at Madras. We need not take from the Government a sum of Rs. 500 on this matter when I know that there are already many of the School Finals without any employment whatever who are willing to get themselves trained, provided the Government would be prepared to give them any employment, if they come up trained. It is only to press that point that I have tabled this cut motion that this Rs. 500 may be omitted. And if the Government are willing, I can find any number of School Finals. Our Hon'ble Member for Education has promised to supply any number of School Finals for appointment as constables in the Police Department, and so, we will get so many School Finals for this training. So, to bring this matter to the notice of Government, I tabled this motion.

Rama Varmha Tampuran.—Sir, the suggestion made by the Hon'ble Member is possible only if we are recruiting new hands. Only the hands now in the office are being sent out and temporary hands for 2 or 3 months would have to be appointed during the period of training and only for this temporary period will a new hand be entertained?

Mr. A. L. Antony.—Were they not doing this work without training till this time?

Rama Varmha Tampuran.—Yes, Sir.

Mr. A. L. Antony.—I can send some of the School Finals to go and get themselves trained, and when they come back, they can be recruited.

Rama Varmha Tampuran.—What about the existing clerks then?

Rao Sahib Mr. C. Matthai.—Sir, I may inform the Member that we are trying to introduce even in our School Final curriculum the elements of co-operation. That proposal is now with the Government. We think for the spread of co-operation in our State it will be desirable to introduce the elements of co-operation in our schools. We are also starting Co-operative Societies in our Boys' and Girls' Schools.

Mr. C. J. Mathew.—Then these clerks can go and attend those schools.

Rao Sahib Mr. C. Matthai.—That is not what I mean.

Mr. A. B. Salem.—Sir, of course this matter has been thoroughly threshed out in the Finance Committee and we are of opinion that it is a wise step that the Government are taking.

VOTING OF DEMANDS FOR GRANTS

2335

But there are persons in the Department who know the working of the Department, who are conversant with the present administration in regard to co-operation. So to send these people for a further training in Madras where greater operations take place so that they may have more and more experience will be an advantage to our State rather than a disadvantage. Of course it is not at all a costly thing, and they will know, being men who have worked here and who have got the experience, all the modern principles of co-operation. So they will be very useful if they are trained and, therefore, we give our hearty support to the Government for the proposition.

Deputy President.—Do you press this motion?

Mr. A. L. Antony.—No. I withdraw.

The motion was, with leave, withdrawn.

Motion No. 32.

Mr. A. Eachara Menon.—*To reduce the allotment of Rs. 500 for lump provision for training of clerks by Re. 1.*

Deputy President.—Motion No. 32 stands in the name of Mr. Eachara Menon.

Mr. A. Eachara Menon.—My motion is to bring before the House the unsatisfactory way in which co-operation is being carried in the State. I shall confine myself to a passage from the report on the working of the Co-operative Societies for the year 1103 :—

“It is regrettable that substantial progress was not made by the institute during the year under report. The Co-operative movement has taken deep root in the minds of the general masses. Its existence cannot be ignored by any one in the State. But its rapid progress among the people on sound lines depends upon the inculcation of its principles and potentialities among the public in general. Co-operation is nothing if it is not moral and educative. It is chiefly this part of the work that the institute has to do. It is hoped that the next report would be able to record appreciable progress”.

In the face of this I do not think any speech is necessary from me. Before I sit down I shall bring to the notice of this House one of the rules lately published in the Gazette.

“It shall be open to the Registrar to order the removal of any Member from the Managing Committee of a Co-operative Society if he is satisfied that such member has acted in any manner contrary to the best interests of the Society.”

I do not think any self-respecting man would care to serve on the Committee if he is left thus to the tender mercies of the Superintendent.

Dr. A. R. Menon.—Sometime ago I asked the Government whether they could give any information about the money

sanctioned by this House, *viz.*, Rs. 5,000 spent for popularising this movement.

Deputy President.—Motion No. 32 is quite different a matter.

Dr. A. R. Menon.—I thought that it was my turn.

The motion was, with leave, withdrawn.

Motion No. 33.

Mr. A. B. Salem.—*To omit the allotment of Rs. 13,650 for Co-operative Societies.*

Deputy President.—Motion No. 33 is in the name of Mr. Salem.

Mr. A. B. Salem.—Sir, I have got something to say. Before that I seek your permission to make it a token cut of one rupee.

Mr. T. K. Krishna Menon.—There is one like that lower down, No. 38.

Deputy President.—Then you need not move this. There is another cut in your name. You may change it to a token motion.

Mr. A. B. Salem.—It is in regard to some other matter. I want to draw the pointed attention of the Government to the fact that in the line of co-operation all that we do now is to lend money. Only money-lending Societies have been brought into existence in the State so far. We have no Co-operative Societies organised for the purpose of distribution of manure, of seeds, of ordinary victuals, agricultural implements, and so on. These are the important aspects of co-operation which are beneficial for an agricultural country like ours. Now, all that we have been following is to organise Societies to lend money and to take the place of an ordinary cruel money-lender into a means of getting money at a little less interest. But all the other difficulties are still existing in the State. There is no conservation of good seeds. I have not heard of any such Society existing anywhere where seeds are collected and good seeds are collected and distributed to the ryots and taken back from them after the harvest is over. We have no Society for the distribution of any better kind of implements of husbandry. The present ones are not so very good. They do not furrow deep, and in order to improve agriculture and to bring about intensive cultivation we want better kinds of implements. If power can be had to be used in the fields, no attention has been riveted to these things. Therefore, I press upon the attention of the Government at least in the coming year such organisations in select places will receive the earnest consideration of the Government to be brought into existence.

Rama Varmha Tampuran.—Sir, four years back some non-credit Societies were tried to be started by the Registrar of Co-operative Societies. But they did not bear much fruit, and so it has not been tried afterwards. If any Society or group of people come forward to start non-credit Societies, the Government will not have any objection at all.

Mr. A. B. Salem.—Can't you ask the Registrar who is an itinerant officer to bring some into existence? Even these Credit Societies he brought into existence.

Rama Varmha Tampuran.—He tried four years ago.

Rao Sahib Mr. C. Matthai.—There is an idea of organising the Society of carpenters in Trichur—what is called the Viswakarma Society. Government have now promised to help them provided they would come and work in the premises of the Industrial School in Trichur, and provided I would undertake to see that what is advanced to them does not turn out to be irrecoverable. If they work in the Industrial School, we can give them loans for timber, implements, etc. There would be no risk then, and I have asked the Registrar to draw up a rough scheme. I have also asked him to discuss the matter with the Headmaster, Trades School, and I hope to start work soon. Similarly I have asked the Registrar to start a Society at Vadakkancheri for the benefit of persons engaged in mat-making. They are poor people—these Kuravas,—who, though skilled workmen, live in chronic debt. And then our idea, even as regards the Industrial Schools, is that, when the young men who undergo the course pass out, they are to be attached to the schools, and by becoming members of Co-operative Societies they might carry on their work and be able to earn a living wage.

Mr. A. L. Antony.—What about the bell-metal industry?

Rao Sahib Mr. C. Matthai.—Some years ago along with the Kuthampilly Weavers' Society a bell-metal Society was started in Ernakulam and both shared the same fate.

Mr. A. B. Salem.—I do not press the motion.

The motion was, with leave, withdrawn.

Motion No. 34.

Mr. A. S. Harihara Ayyar.—*To reduce the total allotment of Rs. 16,800 under Demand No. III by Re. 1.*

Deputy President.—No. 34.

Mr. A. S. Harihara Ayyar.—I just want to bring to the notice of the Government only this thing. In our State, in spite of the fact that even good securities are being offered, the rate of interest has not been reduced; it is still 12 per cent. The very objects of the Co-operative Society are not being

understood in our State. In our land, though we have got so many Co-operative Societies, very few have understood what it really means. By co-operation a rich man is co-operated with a poor man, and the poor man, unless he gets the amount at a very low percentage of interest, there is no such use of co-operation, and further, whatever liabilities are being incurred by these Co-operative Societies, every share-holder is liable for that. That idea never entered into the brains of the present share-holders. In British India the rate of interest at present is only 9 per cent or so. Here it is invariably 12 per cent. I only want that the rate of interest must be reduced as far as possible, say to 6 per cent. Then only from the so-called co-operation there would be any real benefit done to the members and to the persons who accept the money as loans. I would like to hear the Government Member on the point.

Rama Varmha Tampuran.—Of course, the rate of interest cannot be reduced unless the Societies concerned consent.

Mr. A. S. Harihara Ayyar.—So, the answer is it is left to the Societies and members concerned. I withdraw the motion with the consent of the House.

The motion was, with leave, withdrawn.

Motion No. 35.

Mr. C. V. Kuriyan.—To reduce the total allotment of Rs. 16,800 under Demand No. III by Re. 1.

Deputy President.—No. 35, Mr. Kuriyan.

Mr. C. V. Kuriyan.—Sir, I have tabled this motion to bring to the notice of this House the unfair attitude to the non-official body taken by the Departmental Head and also to impress upon this House that the administration so far done has been a failure and also to say that too much interference by the Government is dangerous for the working of this Department. I submit that year after year non-officials have been partaking in this affair. The Departmental Head was however non-co-operating with non-officials. There was this year a meeting conducted by the Central Institute presided over by the present Diwan in which I regret to note the Departmental Head or even the staff were conspicuous by their absence. It was purely a meeting conducted by the representatives of several primary Societies, and it was the proper place to ventilate the grievances of primary Societies wherein, I wonder, what prompted the Departmental Head to absent himself. There were also two meetings held by the Central Co-operative Bank in which also the Head of the Department did not take part.

There also, for what reason I do not know, the Registrar was conspicuous by his absence. I am not going to point out the cause for his absence, but it is a sure sign that he is not giving sufficient encouragement to the non-official Societies in his Department. Now, on the other hand, as we peruse the reports of several years, we find this Department has been exaggerating the difficulties in its working to an enormous extent that it appeared to me sometimes that it was a bold venture or audacity on his part to impose such reports on the non-official members. Now, can anybody believe that some of the Inspectors of this Department have inspected some of the primary Societies in camp for 365 days? It is an exaggeration which no reasonable man can believe, and I really wondered how that sort of Inspector can find rest except once in four years, that is when a leap year would come. Then he would get a half-holiday. My another objection is that this Department has been overmanned, when we consider the work threshed out by the Department in Madras. There, every Inspector is in control of nearly 700 Societies. He is supervising those Societies, he is checking the accounts and he is doing all business with the non-official Co-operative Societies, whereas in our State we find from the report to the safety of the Departmental Head himself that out of the 179 Societies there are only 72 Societies worth mentioning and properly doing business. "Out of these," the report goes on to say, "there are only 72 Societies which deal with a working capital of Rs. 7,000." For these 72 Societies there are 5 Inspectors, and so it seems the division of labour is rather minimised.

Now, I can pointedly show that the work for each Inspector will not amount to so much as is narrated in the report. The report itself shows that there were only 11,800 and odd transactions in the course of the year which will cover for repayment another 11,800 and for fresh loans another 11,800. So, if we calculate the turn-over in the course of the year, there will be only 33,000 transactions and only 33,000 entries. For checking these 33,000 entries, I think that five Inspectors are not necessary. I may also say in this connection that any clerk in the Account and Finance Department is turning out much more splendid work than the Inspectors who do work in this Department. Now, in spite of that, the present Registrar is requesting for an additional personal assistant to help him. I wonder what earthly use there is for a personal assistant at present, seeing that the work is also minimised and the Societies are diminishing in number, while some of the Societies have already gone into voluntary liquidation even. I also take objection to the policy

adopted by the Registrar of dividing and ruling. In certain Societies he has been the cause of division among the non-official block, and he has estranged the feelings of certain private Societies towards the Central Institute and the Central Co-operative Bank. I also take objection to the undue delay in publishing audit certificates of primary Societies. It is only the other day, on the 5th of Karkadagam, that the audit certificate of the Chittur-Tattamangalam Society for the year 1103 was published. His motive is to bring to the notice of the Government that there is heavy work lying before him, and it is a bad motive. What is the purpose of exaggerating difficulties like this? What is the use of delaying business like this?

Now, the Registrar also proposes to establish some Co-operative Unions. Such Co-operative Unions in Madras have been working most unsatisfactorily. I also take objection to imposing these Societies one above the other so as to make it a hierarchy of official and non-official activities. Now, this is a Department in which the non-officials should be given ample scope for working. This is a Department in which the Government should interfere as little as possible. To impose this supervising Union and to collect a certain portion of the little income they get from the primary Societies for their management is not conducive to the progress of the existing Societies and their proper working. I also take objection to the policy followed by the Department in having only Credit Societies till now. But as the Hon'ble Member has assured us that he is trying to have an experiment non-credit on basis, I am not going to dilate further on that point.

Dr. A. R. Menon.—Sir, this House and the Government will remember that two years ago I brought to the notice of the Government that everything is not satisfactory with the working of the Co-operative Societies, and I levelled my charges mainly on the non-officials and the want of supervision that the Government exercised. Then the question arose as to what extent the Government is entitled to interfere in a movement of this nature, and the Government went on saying that the Central Bank was only an ordinary bank and that they had no right of interference. I objected to that statement on the ground that the Central Bank is not based on the same ground as any other private bank, because your Tahsildar is the Treasurer, and you have appointed your own Secretary and the Secretary is a Government employee, thereby indicating that the Government has some right of supervision over the bank. I warned the Government then that, unless the Government roused themselves up, they will find that a lot of illegalities and irregularities are going on in the Co-operative Societies. You did not take me seriously then. Now the case proved too strong for you and

you are under strong and energetic action. Better late than never. Now we have been hearing a lot about interference on the part of the Government in the management of the private Societies, thereby assuming that this interference on the part of the Government is creating a sort of displeasure and a sort of unwillingness on the part of the non-official members who work them. Now, what is the real state of affairs in the Central Bank? Out of the four, 2 are not entitled to sit in the Central Bank. It is in violation of the fundamental principles of co-operation that they are sitting there. I will point out this to the House that there is a fundamental principle in co-operation that any one, who is associated with any other bank or who has any interest in any other bank, should not be a member of the Co-operative Bank. Two of them have got interest in various other banks, and what is more scandalous, the Government Central Bank has dealings with two of these banks and they refuse to have dealings with other banks on equal terms. I made this allegation and sent in a series of questions to Government, which questions are being printed, and were suppressed rightly on the ground that there was some technical objection to discuss such questions in this Council. But that gave the Government a hint. Whenever anybody objects that such and such answer should not be published, that must give you the hint that there is something behind all that. Why did not the Government demand the resignation of these people who are sitting there against the principles of co-operation? Did you do that? Now, a non-official gentleman was saying here that it is time that the Government should not interfere. I say, their interference is not sufficient because the Government Bank and the Government Institute are not working properly, and the people have a belief, rightly or wrongly, that this Bank and this Institute are being supervised by the Government because they see Government officials connected with the working of the movement there. That is the complaint.

Now, I used to hear a good lot of praise about the Co-operative Registrar. Only this year he has become all at once unpopular. Why? Because he was forced, either on his own initiative or he was forced by Government, to take energetic action. There was an enquiry. Even this House knows what actually took place in two of the co-operative meetings. We were surprised to hear people would have tendered their resignation and wanted a re-election. The Government naturally suspended the proceedings of the meeting and the meeting is under suspension.

Now, there is a third charge. A member of a Co-operative Society told me that now and then the Government officials take their side; otherwise they are nowhere. I say the Co-operative movement here has been stinking the name of co-operation. The whole movement has been vitiated, abused not only by the Government officials (not by interference) but also the non-officials who ought to know better, and who, knowing better, ought not to have anything to do with the indirect violation of the co-operative principles. The point raised by the Member for Nemmara is absolutely true. These allegations were made at a Co-operative Union over which I was presiding. The Registrar, the Secretary, the members of the Central Bank and the Central Institute, far from encouraging them to borrow, are discouraging them and asking them exorbitant rates of interest. As a matter of fact, they take the money themselves by collecting money from the Government officials and handing it over at lower rates of interest. Is this the way to carry on co-operation? Therefore, far from blaming the Government, my only point is, when you say that the Government is not doing as it ought to do, it is your duty to interfere as far as the rules and regulations permit. I am very glad that this year at least you did interfere in this matter.

Rama Varmha Tampuran.—Sir, one or two points which the Hon'ble Member for Anthikad referred to with regard to co-operation. As to the fact that the Registrar is not taking sufficient interest, if he will point out any specific instance where there has been negligence, Government will certainly look into it. Simply to say that he was absent in one or two meetings and, therefore, he is not interested in the movement or he is blamable is a view the Government cannot accept. (*Hear, hear.*)

Then regarding non-interference, what the Member for Trichur and also the Member for Jews just before expressed, viz., that the Co-operative Registrar should take the initiative to start non-credit Societies, the statements made by those two Members themselves form sufficient reply to that charge. (*Hear, hear.*)

As to the Unions, the Unions are not started by the Government at all; they are started by the Societies themselves. The Societies want a Union, they form themselves into a Union, and that Union is recognised by the Government. Already there is one Union at present and that Union is working splendidly, and because of that Union one or two Societies, which had not been working properly until then, have been rejuvenated and have come up into regular working order. Therefore, so

far as our knowledge goes, this single Union that is in existence now is justifying its existence.

I do not think that Government need give any more opinion or reply on the points raised.

Mr. C. V. Kuriyan.—Before I withdraw the motion, I have only to say that this Department is a big institution in which the non-official working should be the primary consideration. I am not against Government interfering with regard to the purse of the Department because the Government is advancing loans. I only say that more freedom should be given to the non-official side of the public.

With regard to the Unions I only say that it will be a heavy charge on the primary Societies which are not working properly at present and they won't be able to finance the Union at present.

Rama Varmha Tampuran.—It is left to the Societies to form Unions or not.

Mr. C. V. Kuriyan.—There is no compulsion by the Government. But that will be a charge which will be hindering the working of the primary Societies which are already deficient in funds.

Rama Varmha Tampuran.—On the other hand, it should bring about more vigilant supervision of the Societies which are not working properly now.

Mr. C. V. Kuriyan.—I withdraw.

Mr. Thomas Manjuran.—Is the allegation made by the Member for Trichur, that gentlemen who are not entitled to be directors are directors of the Central Co-operative Bank, true?

Rama Varmha Tampuran.—Government cannot answer that question straightway.

Mr. Thomas Manjuran.—I shall ask the Member for Trichur. I want to know whether the allegation made by him, that there are directors in the Board of the Central Co-operative Bank who are by law not entitled to be members, true. If that is true, it is a serious allegation.

Dr. A. R. Menon.—If the Government will permit me, I shall give the necessary information whenever the Government want it. Why should I proclaim all these things in open Council? I shall be very glad and happy to furnish the Government with all the details to substantiate my charges here.

Mr. Thomas Manjuran.—Such a statement is publicly made by a responsible Member. If that is so, it should not be allowed. If that is not so, that fact should be taken note of.

Dr. A. R. Menon.—Did the Government say anything, yes or no?

Rama Varmha Tampuran.—Government cannot answer.

Dr. A. R. Menon.—You deny that?

The motion was, with leave, withdrawn.

Motion No. 36.

Mr. V. D. Ouseph.—*To reduce the total allotment of Rs. 16,800 under Demand No. III by Re 1.*

Deputy President.—No. 36.

Mr. V. D. Ouseph.—I don't move.

Hence the motion was considered withdrawn.

Motion No. 37.

Dr. A. R. Menon.—*To reduce the total allotment of Rs. 16,800 under Demand No. III by Re. 1.*

Deputy President.—Next one is yours, Dr. A. R. Menon.

Dr. A. R. Menon.—That is finished. I have already said what I had to say. I don't move it.

Hence the motion was considered withdrawn.

Motion No. 38.

Mr. A. B. Saleem.—*To reduce the total allotment of Rs. 16,800 under Demand No. III by Re. 1.*

Deputy President.—Last one is in the name of Mr. Saleem.

Mr. A. B. Saleem.—I don't move.

Hence the motion was considered withdrawn.

Question proposed: *That the demand asked for III—Co-operative Societies be granted by the House.*

Question put and agreed to.

14. Demand No. XXXI—Uplift of the Depressed Classes—Rs. 84,800.

Deputy President.—Next demand is No. XXXI.

Rao Sahib Mr. C. Matthai.—Sir, I rise to move for the grant of Rs. 84,800 under 'Uplift of the Depressed Classes'. This means only an increase of Rs. 11,500 over the revised estimate of this year. I suppose I am expected to give some idea of the way in which these funds are proposed to be utilised. We have first the heading 'General' under which there is an increase of Rs. 1,330. This is intended for 'Establishment', 'Travelling Allowance'; and then 'Water Supply', 'Miscellaneous', 'Colonies', 'Rent' and other sub-headings. The establishment consists of the Assistant Protector of Depressed Classes, his clerk and his peon. There is an increase of Rs. 260 under 'Travelling Allowance' for this establishment. We used to pay the Assistant Protector a fixed monthly allowance, but we

found it was a handicap preventing his moving about as freely as we would have liked, and now we pay him travelling allowance according to travelling allowance rules.

Mr. Thomas Manjuran.—What would be the difference?

Rao Sahib Mr. C. Matthai.—It is not time yet to say. It may come to something like 200 rupees more annually. We used to pay him Rs. 25 monthly, and I think the average would now be about Rs. 40. And then 'Water Supply'. It means providing tanks and wells for the Depressed Classes. By the end of this year we expect to spend something like Rs. 6,500 for this purpose. We had selected about 25 places all over the State. We have dug wells as well as tanks. Of course this year we were fortunate in getting a gift of Rs. 5,000 as part of His Highness' Birthday Boon. His Highness was gracious enough to set apart Rs. 5,000 for making provision for water supply to the Depressed Classes. I got the grant rather late in the year when the monsoon was about to start and digging was attended with special difficulties. I am glad to say that nearly the whole of it has however been spent already. I myself have gone about to inspect the works carried out in these places.

Mr. C. J. Mathew.—May I know how many wells and tanks there are now?

Rao Sahib Mr. C. Matthai.—In some places there are wells and in other places there are tanks. I think it would roughly be about 25.

Mr. A. L. Antony.—It is exclusively for the Depressed Classes?

Rao Sahib Mr. C. Matthai.—We do not prevent others from coming. But we make them understand that it is for the Depressed Classes, because they are afraid to go to other places. Here we tell them "this is specially for you". Of course, if other people want to draw water, they do not object.

Mr. A. B. Salem.—They might make others untouchables.

Mr. A. Eachara Menon.—The Cherumas won't allow the Nayadīs to draw water.

Rao Sahib Mr. C. Matthai.—That is among themselves. Anyhow the higher castes are not prevented from using these wells and tanks. The areas occupied by these Depressed Classes are not very large. We have got Paraya quarters, Pulaya quarters, Nayadi quarters, Ulladans, and so on.

And then we have got the allotment under 'Miscellaneous'. That is for providing Bhajana Mutts, burial grounds and for Co-operative Societies. We are starting a number of Co-operative Societies, especially for the Depressed Classes, and we have appointed a special officer who was trained in the

Co-operative Department. He was first trained as a clerk in my office and put in charge of the Depressed Class section. He is an Honours graduate in Economics. We put him under the Co-operative Registrar for 6 months' training, and after the training he has been appointed as the Inspector of Depressed Classes' Co-operative Societies. Though he works under the Co-operative Department, our Department pays the money. We supply these Co-operative Societies that are started for Depressed Classes with registers, books and sometimes a little furniture, and these are met out of the Depressed Class Fund. That is 'Miscellaneous'.

And then "Colonies". You will find that this year we spent about Rs. 10,000 for Colonies, and we propose to spend the same amount on Colonies for Depressed Classes next year. You know we have got a certain number of Colonies, one in Chalakkudi, one in Kunnankulam and another at Palayannur, another at Narakkal, and we have recently opened a Colony for Ulladans in Nettur, a place about 5 miles from here. We have just taken charge of the place. The land has been assigned, and we propose to settle some 30 or 40 Ulladan families there. Their occupation, you know, is boat construction, and we propose to give them facilities for it; we propose to give them a school, and a Co-operative Society also later on.

And then there is another little item, 'Rent'. That is for the Co-operative Inspector's house rent and that of the Assistant Protector.

And then the bulk of the allotment for Depressed Classes is the amount for educational purposes. We propose to spend about 64,000 rupees for educational purposes next year, and that is Rs. 10,000 more than was allotted for the purpose in the year 1104. The various items under educational expenditure are 'special stipends' for Depressed Class pupils in the Secondary Schools. We have an enhanced stipend for every Depressed Class pupil who gets into the Upper Secondary and a lower set of stipends for those who read in Lower Secondary Department and then we have special stipends for those who are sent to the Industrial Schools. We select a number of these Depressed Class pupils—boys and girls—from various places and send them to the Industrial Schools at Trichur. And then we put them also in Rural Industrial Schools to give them a knowledge of industries and give them some little stipends and there is regular feeding and clothing in the Secondary Department, Girls' Schools and Primary Schools and Primary Girls' Schools. That is another item of expenditure, the total of which, as you will see from the budget, is Rs. 31,000. That is for special scholarships plus feeding and clothing.

Dr. A. G. Menon.—We may ask for information ; we have only 15 minutes.

Rao Sahib Mr. C. Matthai.—After that comes the lighting charges for Night Schools. As I told you the other day, there are adult schools conducted for Depressed Classes and we supply them with lights. And then we have a certain number of Government Elementary Schools specially set apart for the Depressed Classes and then again we have a number of Aided Schools specially intended for the Depressed Classes.

Dr. A. G. Menon.—Whenever we want any further information, you may give that information. You need not go into elaborate details now.

Rao Sahib Mr. C. Matthai.—I am very glad. I will then take advantage of your generosity and sit down.

Motion No. 39.

Mr. C. J. Mathew.—*To reduce the allotment of Rs. 19,889 for Establishment by Re. 1.*

Deputy President.—No. 39, Mr. C. J. Mathew.

Mr. C. J. Mathew.—I shall be very brief. I only want to emphasise two facts before the House. The Director of Public Instruction has to manage a very big Department, and as such he will be wanting in time to look after the Protectorate. From the allotment we find the amount under the head "Depressed Classes" is increasing every year and the functions of the Protector are naturally getting wider in scope. Therefore, it is time that we should have a full-time officer with nothing else to do except to look after the Protectorate. Otherwise it will be just like the Panchayats and Agriculture put together and both Departments getting spoiled. Because of this overburdened work on the present Director as Heads of many Departments, the Education Department, which is well managed now, may get into evil days. So I request that he be deprived of the Protector's work and a full-time officer appointed as Protector.

Dr. A. R. Menon.—The Assistant is a full-time officer ?

Rao Sahib Mr. C. Matthai.—Yes, and the Co-operative Inspector also.

Mr. C. J. Mathew.—I want a more qualified man as Protector than the present Assistant.

Mr. C. A. Kunjuni Raja.—What is the qualification ?

Mr. C. J. Mathew.—He need not be a Jenmi or a graduate of 'Edin'. He must be more qualified than the present Assistant. That is all. I am indeed very glad that the present Assistant Protector is a member of the Depressed Classes.

Mr. M. K. Raman.—The Assistant is not a Depressed Classman.

Mr. C. J. Mathew.—I thought a Vala came under the Depressed Class.

Rao Sahib Mr. C. Matthai.—Neither an Ezhuva nor a Vala is a Depressed Class man.

Mr. C. J. Mathew.—Then, Backward Class, I would say. As represented the other day, a man who is not a member of the Backward Class or Depressed Class cannot know as much about their social and other disabilities as one among them.

Rao Sahib Mr. C. Matthai.—He is a man of the Backward Class.

Mr. C. J. Mathew.—I am referring now to the Protector himself.

I say it would be better to have a Protector from among the Backward or Depressed Class as the case may be. He will be better qualified to look after their interests and arrive at something progressive for them. I say this because he would certainly feel the pang much more than a Protector who is not a Depressed Class man. It is only natural that we should expect it to be so. So I pray the Government to seriously consider the question. Two things may be considered, that is, a full-time Protector (academically more qualified than the present Assistant) and one who is either of the Backward or of the Depressed Class.

Mr. M. K. Raman.—In this connection I may say a few words. Sir, I may congratulate the Member for Education that, in spite of the several other duties that he has to do, he has done very splendid work as the Protector of the Depressed Classes. (*Hear, hear.*) Not that I object to that suggestion by the Member for Chalakkudi to make the Protector's appointment separate, but I say that the present Protector with his Assistant has been doing very good work in that direction. I have been observing what things have been done by them, and I really congratulate the Government in the right move that they have taken. I am only sorry that the Government is not allowing them more money.

Dr. A. R. Menon.—Sir, I object to this appointment on the ground that it is simply for creating another post. I do not understand what this "qualification" means. I think the Assistant Protector has all the necessary qualifications. He must be a quiet man, a patient man, a man who moves with the people, who has got real sympathy and he should be a man of respectability. It is such a man we want and he has got all these qualifications.

Mr. C. J. Mathew.—I said 'a more qualified man'.

Dr. A. R. Menon.—That means his qualification is not sufficient. When you say a more qualified man is necessary, I

may say like every other man our Director also is almost to retire and the State has got a moral claim over him, and when he retires it will be only crowning his career by his taking the post of Honorary Protector of the Depressed Classes (*hear, hear*). That would be the proper way of doing things, and since the statement has been made by the Member who represents this community that his work has been very satisfactory, there is no necessity for creating a post.

Mr. A. S. Harihara Ayyar.—On a point of information. I should like to know whether the Protector of the Depressed Classes can give any idea as to what is the average annual earning or monthly earning or daily earning of these Depressed Classes is?

Rao Sahib Mr. C. Matthai.—Can that be said of other communities?

The motion was, with leave, withdrawn.

Motion No. 40.

Mr. C. A. Kunjunni Raja.—*To omit the allotment of Rs. 1,996 for lump provision for new classes and schools.*

Deputy President.—Next, No. 40.

Mr. C. A. Kunjunni Raja.—I don't move.

Hence the motion was considered withdrawn.

Motion No. 41.

Mr. K. Ayyappan.—*To reduce the total allotment of Rs. 84,800 under "Demand No. XXXI" by Re. 1.*

Deputy President.—Next motion is in the name of Mr. Ayyappan. He is absent.

Hence the motion was considered withdrawn.

Motion No. 42.

Mr. A. S. Harihara Ayyar.—*To reduce the total allotment of Rs. 84,800 under "Demand No. XXXI" by Rs. 1.*

Deputy President.—Motion No. 42.

Mr. A. S. Harihara Ayyar.—I don't move.

Hence the motion was considered withdrawn.

Motion No. 43.

Mr. K. P. Kannan Nayar.—*To reduce the total allotment of Rs. 84,800 under "Demand No. XXXI" by Rs. 100.*

Deputy President.—Next, Mr. K. P. Kannan Nayar's motion. The Member is absent.

Hence the motion was considered withdrawn.

Motion No. 44.

Mr. T. K. Nayar.—*To reduce the total allotment of Rs. 84,800 under "Demand No. XXXI" by Re. 1.*

Deputy President.—Motion No. 44.

Mr. T. K. Nayar.— I don't move.

Hence the motion was considered withdrawn.

Question proposed: *That the grant asked for under Demand No. XXXI—Uplift of the Depressed Classes be passed.*

Question put and agreed to.

15. Demand No. XXI—Medical—Rs. 2,41,798.

Dr. A. R. Menon.—We have five minutes more. We shall take up the next demand.

Diwan Bahadur Dr. V. Verghese.—Sir, I rise to move for a grant of Rs. 2,41,798 under 'XXI—Medical.' This demand, Sir, you will observe, is less than that of the previous year, a unique feature in the whole of this budget, because the other Departments have asked for increase over the previous year's allotments while I myself am astonished to find that my demand is less than that of the previous year. Probably, I think it will send a thrill of pleasure into the minds of the people who usually think that I am wasting more money than is necessary.

Dr. A. G. Menon.—That can be said only if no supplementary demands are asked for.

Diwan Bahadur Dr. V. Verghese.—This fact, however, does not require very much explanation in the matter. I suppose no one will attribute that the Medical Department has not been progressive because of the fact that I am asking less money. In all Departments of medical activity in the State there has been progress. So, instead of taking more time, I would leave the Members to ask any further questions that they like and clear any doubts that they may have, for which, I hope, there will be no necessity, because I have asked much less than the allotment for the previous year.

Dr. A. R. Menon.—Was there any application for the Honorary Dentist's post? Did the Hon'ble Member advertise in the Cochin Government Gazette?

Diwan Bahadur Dr. V. Verghese.—We have not advertised. The Hon'ble Member who just now put this question mentioned the name of a Dentist of repute who was willing, as he expressed in the House, to take up honorary work. I lost no time to visit that gentleman and asked him if he was willing and he declined, and that fact I have reported to the Government.

Dr. A. R. Menon.—The point was, I said he might accept. What I wanted to say was, you should advertise for a Dentist's post, so that, if they are willing to come forward to do the work without payment, that must be introduced. That is the point. I am asking whether an advertisement was inserted to that

effect in the Cochin Government Gazette or any other papers. After all, this Gazette contains some leave and appointment, and nobody takes any interest, generally speaking, in the Gazette. Therefore, I said it must be advertised in the papers also, so that we may know whether any one is willing to come forward to take the place. Have you done it? That is the question.

Diwan Bahadur Dr. V. Verghese.—No advertisement was made. But I may add for the information of the House that I have entertained a Sub-Assistant Surgeon who has got dental qualification.

Dr. A. R. Menon.—I know it will come to that.

Diwan Bahadur Dr. V. Verghese.—In addition to that, as far as I know, there is no *bona fide* Cochinite who is qualified to take the place of Dental Surgeon. So there was no object in advertising.

Dr. A. R. Menon.—We have broken that rule long ago. I am surprised that that remark should come from there.

Mr. C.J. Mathew.—Is that Sub-Assistant Surgeon doing any dental work in the General Hospital?

Diwan Bahadur Dr. V. Verghese.—No.

Deputy President.—We will rise now.

The House rose for the day at 5 p. m.

T. K. KRISHNA MENON,

Secretary to the Council.